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Near East/South Asia Report

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8 April 1985

NEAR EAST/SOUTH ASIA REPORT

CONTENTS

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

ARMENIAN AFFAIRS

Turkish Paper: ASALA Expands Circle of Threats (MARMARA, 1 Feb 85)	1
France Adopts Precautionary Measures Against ASALA Threats (MARMARA, 6, 7 Mar 85)	2
'State of Alert' Declared by Interior Minister Reaction to ASALA Threat Reported	
Turkish Premier Suggests Revision of Armenian Question (MARMARA, 13 Feb 85)	4
Turkish 'Investigative Panel' Examines Armenian Question (MARMARA, 15 Feb 85)	6
MILLIYET's 'Provocative' Charges Refuted by Istanbul Patriarch (MARMARA, 18 Feb 85)	9

ARAB AFRICA

ALGERIA

Nabi on 72nd OPEC Conference (Belkacem Nabi Interview; ALGERIE ACTUALITE, No 1003, 3-9 Jan 85)	11
Briefs	
APS-TANJUG Agreement	14
Algerian-Argentine Energy Protocol	14
Messaadia Meets With PLO's Qaddumi	14

EGYPT

Topics for Discussion at June NPUG Conference
(Husayn 'Abd Rabbuh; AL-AHALI, 27 Feb 85) 15

Briefs
Religious Affairs Official Suspended 20

MOROCCO

Briefs
Protest Lodged on CSSR Booklet 21
International Crescent Accord Signed 21
Customs Frauds Convention With Spain 21

SOUTH ASIA

AFGHANISTAN

People's Sovereignty Said To Be Strengthened in Farah
(HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR, 4 Feb 85) 23

Two Thousand Graduates To Work in Ministries, Other Institutions
(HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR, 5 Feb 85) 25

Karmal: We Share Same History With Border Tribes
(HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR, 5 Feb 85) 27

Land Reform Objective To Abolish Feudal System
(ANIS, 7 Feb 85) 29

Fair Irrigation Services Undertaken
(DEHQAN, 31 Jan 85) 31

Orchard Products Sold Through Cooperatives
(DEHQAN, 31 Jan 85) 32

Council on Housing To Improve Living Conditions
(ANIS, 6 Feb 85) 33

Official Radio Comments on Death of Resistance Leader
(LIBERATION, 23-24 Feb 85) 34

INDIA

Responsibility for Nuclear Arming of Pakistan Assessed
(Editorial; PATRIOT, 27 Feb 85) 36

IRAN

U.S. 'Claims' on Opium Cultivation in Iran Denied
(ETTELA'AT, 18 Feb 85) 38

Seventeen International Smugglers Arrested (KEYHAN, 17 Feb 85)	40
Khomeyni: All Corruptions Result of Conceit (SOBH-E AZADEGAN, 4 Feb 85)	41
Islamic Guidance Minister Views Display of Confiscated Items (SOBH-E AZADEGAN, 16 Feb 85)	49
Objectives, Activities of Information Ministry Elaborated (ETTELA'AT, 18 Feb 85)	51
Bill on Border Crossing Penalties Approved (KEYHAN, 7 Feb 85)	54
Sistan va Baluchestan Pays 400 Million Tumans in Taxes (BURS, 30 Jan 85)	55
Tax Role Stressed for Azarbaijan Reconstruction Projects (BURS, 4 Feb 85)	56
Second Unit of Esfahan Power Plant Becomes Operational (KEYHAN, 13 Feb 85)	58
Exposition Displays Industrial Products of Revolution (SOBH-E AZADEGAN, 4 Feb 85)	60
Minister Invites Investment in Industrial Exposition (SOBH-E AZADEGAN, 19 Feb 85)	62
Bank Official Explains Efforts To Control Cash Flow (Mohsen Nurbakhsh; SOBH-E AZADEGAN, 7 Feb 85)	65
Heavy Industry Ministry Announces Private Sector Investment (KEYHAN, 27 Feb 85)	67
Japanese Delegate Gives Views on Metro Construction (KEYHAN, 4 Mar 85)	72
No Agreement Reached on Metro Construction (KEYHAN, 4 Mar 85)	76
Agricultural Services, Prices Announced (KEYHAN, 19 Feb 85)	77
Agricultural Land Use Valid Until Ratification of Reform Act (KEYHAN, 27 Feb 85)	78
Regulations on Student Admission, Aid, Other Issues Announced (KEYHAN, 17 Feb 85)	82

Education Minister Discusses University Needs (KEYHAN, 27 Feb 85)	85
Special Terminal for Hajj Flights Inaugurated (KEYHAN, 13 Feb 85)	87
Iran-Turkey Passenger Train To Begin Operation Early Spring (KEYHAN, 17 Feb 85)	89
PAKISTAN	
Elections Said of Little Help in Filling 'Political Void' (Editorial; VIEWPOINT, 28 Feb 85)	92
Economic Problems Seen as Stiff Challenge for New Parliament (Sultan Ahmed; DAWN, 7 Mar 85)	94
Lawyers' Body Criticizes Amendments to Constitution (THE MUSLIM, 7 Mar 85)	96
Wali Khan Criticizes Changes in Constitution (THE MUSLIM, 8 Mar 85)	97
Amendments to Constitution Term 'Rational, Practical' (THE MUSLIM, 8 Mar 85)	98
Dissatisfaction Expressed Over Political Trends (THE MUSLIM, 8 Mar 85)	99
Commentary Views 'Historic' March Events (Ghazi Salahuddin; DAWN, 7 Mar 85)	100
Amendments Said 'Contrary to Islamic Teaching' (THE MUSLIM, 7 Mar 85)	102
Official Says Primary Education To Be Compulsory (THE MUSLIM, 7 Mar 85)	103
No Hope Seen of Martial Law Being Lifted (Ayaz Amir; VIEWPOINT, 28 Feb 85)	104
Civil Service: No Progress Said Made in Reforming Higher Grades (Saeed Qureshi; THE MUSLIM, 7 Mar 85)	106
Foreign Policy Analyzed, Seen 'Serving Foreign Interests' (THE MUSLIM, 7 Mar 85)	107
Non-Interest Banking: Aspects Explained (S.G.M. Budruddin; DAWN, 9 Mar 85)	109
Cotton: Crop, Export Problems Discussed (Babar Ayaz; DAWN, 9 Mar 85)	111

Oil: Official Policies Said To Discourage Exploration (M. Ziauddin; DAWN, 9 Mar 85)	113
New Air Force Chief Profiled (THE MUSLIM, 8 Mar 85)	115
Briefs	
Ministers Retired From Army	116
PIA Resumes Tehran Flights	116
Trade Team for Bangladesh, Nepal	116
Exports Statistics	116
Kalabagh Dam Consortium Formed	117
SARC To Adopt Emblem	117
Copies of Magazines Forfeited	117
Extension of Detentions Deplored	117
Plot Against Afghan Rebels	117
Peshawar Lawyers Against Amendments	118
Provision for Opposition Leader	118

ARMENIAN AFFAIRS

TURKISH PAPER: ASALA EXPANDS CIRCLE OF THREATS

Istanbul MARMARA in Armenian 1 Feb 85 p 1

[Excerpt] In GUNES, Behzat Baris and Mehmet Biber report from New York and Washington:

The Armenians are continuing their anti-Turkish activities in the domains of terrorism as well as politics. Recently, ASALA [Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia] issued new threats and announced that it has expanded the scope of its targets. The Armenians are also continuing their efforts to have their allegations about genocide endorsed by the U.S. Congress. Another new development is that a U.S. diplomat of Armenian ancestry, Edward Djerejian, was appointed as deputy to U.S. State Department spokesman Bernard Kalb.

On the occasion of the 10th anniversary of its formation, ASALA published a communique in the Beirut daily AN NAHAR and vowed that its armed attacks will continue with new operations inside and outside Turkey. In its communique, ASALA stated that in addition to Turkey it will also wage battle against American capitalism, the French government and Zionism.

ASALA's threats were also directed against moderate Armenians who were described as "opportunists and reactionaries." The ASALA communique stated that "such individuals will not be spared."

The ASALA communique added that in the coming days the organization will step up its efforts to strengthen its ties with the socialist bloc.

9588
CSO: 4605/117

ARMENIAN AFFAIRS

FRANCE ADOPTS PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES AGAINST ASALA THREATS

'State of Alert' Declared by Interior Minister

Istanbul MARMARA in Armenian 6 Mar 85 p 1

[Text] "We will turn France into a sea of blood in two days" vowed ASALA [Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia] in its latest communique following the verdict of the (Creteil) Criminal Court. As a result of this threat extensive security measures have been taken in all of France. Strict precautions have been taken in and around all government offices, airports, train stations and seaports and at all border crossing points. The French Minister of the Interior, who stated that his government will never give in to violence, declared a countrywide "state of alert."

Yesterday, the French morning dailies expressed the people's concern about this situation. LE FIGARO and LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS wrote that it is France which has now become the target of Armenian terrorism.

LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS devoted an entire page to this issue in its yesterday's edition and carried an interesting interview with Varujan Garbisian's lawyer, Jacques Verge.

Reaction to ASALA Threat Reported

Istanbul MARMARA in Armenian 7 Mar 85 p 1

[Text] The French intelligence services have determined that ASALA is preparing to stage a counteroffensive against France in a move to avenge the convictions of three of its members and to bolster its injured reputation. While the French police have taken special security precautions against the prospect of this Armenian "counteroffensive," it is reported that 250 guerrillas trained in Beirut will slip through French borders and will "turn France into a sea of blood." As a result, all security services have been put on a state of alert, and very strict security measures have been taken. Meanwhile, the Athens-based organization named "Armenian National Resistance" has begun preparations to mark the "70th anniversary of the genocide" and has issued threats against countries and organizations which supported the Turkish side during the trial of the Orly incident.

The French secret service, which has learned about the prospect of bloody operations by ASALA, has taken strict security measures in Air France passenger

planes and around French judges and police officials. A "red zone" has been declared around these officials, and security forces are on the alert around the clock to prevent acts of terror and sabotage. It is believed that ASALA will stage its operations from Beirut which is the most suitable location for such activities.

Meanwhile, the Armenians have expressed differing views on the issue. Henri Papasian, a Dashnak party [Armenian Revolutionary Federation] official declared: "ASALA has chosen the wrong target by wanting to punish France. For us, the (Creteil) verdict means the condemnation of neither Armenia nor the Armenian cause nor terrorism."

FRANCE SOIRE wrote in this connection that since the Orly incident ASALA guerrillas have been trained in Libya and the Soviet Union because after the [Israeli] invasion of Lebanon ASALA was forced to find new masters and sponsors.

The paper says that these 250 guerrillas are very well trained in military and battle tactics and that they receive monthly salaries of 8,000 French francs. According to the paper, their headquarters is located in the Bourj Hammoud quarter of Beirut where [ASALA leader] Hagop Hagopian used to live. Different views have been expressed about the true identity of Hagopian; while some claim that Hagopian is a Soviet Armenian others insist that several individuals are operating under the same name to create a mysterious impression about the true identity of the man.

The HURRIYET correspondent reports that Manuel Farajian, an official of the Armenian National Resistance, has declared in Athens that his organization "will continue its struggle until international organizations and the governments of the world officially recognize the Armenian genocide and until Turkey returns the lands it has seized from the Armenians."

9588
CSO: 4605/119

8 April 1985

ARMENIAN AFFAIRS

TURKISH PREMIER SUGGESTS REVISION OF ARMENIAN QUESTION

Istanbul MARMARA in Armenian 13 Feb 85 pp 1,4

[Text] GUNES carries a front-page interview today on the Armenian question with Prime Minister Turgut Ozal by the well-known journalist Oktay Eksi. Below we present a translation of this interesting conversation which contains a suggestion for a new approach to the issue by one of the highest officials in the country.

GUNES' chief editor Oktay Eksi asked Prime Minister Ozal to express his views regarding the Armenian question. Ozal replied that his government is thinking about revising the Turkish official stance on this issue. During the interview, Ozal told Eksi:

"The wrong approach has been taken with regard to the issue so far, and as a result views and ideas expressed on behalf of Turkey have led to impasses. Furthermore, it has been impossible to convey the facts to the world public opinion as they are. For one thing, for years the Armenians have published thousands and tens of thousands of books all over the world to spread their propaganda and have made everyone 'believe' that there has been a genocide. Now, it is impossible to say that those charges are lies or that if there has been a genocide Moslem inhabitants of the area have suffered more severely. Such responses cannot lead us anywhere today. In my opinion, it would be wise to review everything we have said so far on this issue and see where they have led us. If you ask my opinion on this issue, I will tell you this: Today no one has the right to ask the Turkish republic or the Turkish nation for a single inch of land or to accuse them of any wrongdoing. The reason for that has nothing to do with what has or has not happened. There are two reasons. No one should expect that Turkey accept those charges and allegations, which are based on lies and distortions, as the truth. Secondly, it is senseless to seek a debate today about a period which has been reckoned for and which has become part of history. Consequently, those who apparently think that the Treaty of Sevres is in effect rather than the Treaty of Lausanne are unlikely to find any success in their efforts. They cannot have the right to demand anything from the Turkish republic today. No similar case or precedent exists in international law. In my opinion, it is this point that we should try to explain to the Western world."

It is not clear after what stage it will be possible to declare this view of Prime Minister Ozal's as the official viewpoint of the Turkish government.

However, in the course of this interview with GUNES' chief editor, the impression was created that Prime Minister Ozal favors the concept of initiating work to prepare a "reasonable and understandable thesis with regard to Armenian allegations which can be explained to the civilized world."

Much has been said and written about this subject since 1973 when Armenian terrorists surfaced vowing to take revenge from Turkey and the Turks. The majority of officials and writers--in fact virtually all of them--focused on the premise that the Armenian allegations do not conform with the truth.

According to the facts and source materials we have in our hands today the issue of whether those allegations are right or wrong is not of vital importance, because the demands of the Armenian terrorist organizations do not concern the modern Turkish republic, as Oktay Eksi first wrote in an article published in HURRIYET in 1981. Since then Eksi has reiterated that viewpoint on several occasions. Eksi notes: "The commitments undertaken by the Turkish republic in the domain of international relations begin on the date the Treaty of Lausanne was signed. That treaty does not contain any provisions or references to the effect that Turkish republic carries liabilities with respect to the Armenians, nor have any suggestions been made to that effect since the treaty was signed. Consequently, all the allegations that are being made by the Armenians today are condemned to remain unfounded."

This was Oktay Eksi's viewpoint, but until Prime Minister Ozal's aforementioned statement no remarks sharing or endorsing Eksi's views were made by either a government official or a writer.

At another point in the interview, Ozal requested that when GUNES reports news about terrorist acts it avoid using the term "Armenian terrorism" because such usage has certain drawbacks. The Prime Minister said: "First of all such references are unfair to a national minority, which feels unjustly accused of a crime simply because they share the same national ancestry with the individuals who commit those crimes. The truth is that those citizens feel the same pain as we do. They are as much disconcerted with these acts of terrorism as we are. Consequently, in such cases it would be more proper to say 'acts of terrorism' and to give the names of the organizations committing those acts without mentioning their national affiliation."

9588
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ARMENIAN AFFAIRS

'TURKISH 'INVESTIGATIVE PANEL' EXAMINES ARMENIAN QUESTION

Istanbul MARMARA in Armenian 15 Feb 85 pp 1,4

[Text] Ankara--The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has formed an investigative panel consisting of scholars to study the Armenian question. The members of the panel include prominent scholars and writers such as professors Turkkaya Ataov, Oral Sander, Sinan Aksin and Mumtaz Soysal of the School of Political Sciences and Hasan Koni of the Gazi University.

A Foreign Ministry official stated that Professor Ataov's books on the Armenian question are of great value and importance and that the panel can make extensive use of those books in the course of its work.

Panel members Mumtaz Soysal, Turkkaya Ataov, Sinan Aksin and Hasan Koni will travel to Paris attend the Orly massacre trial where they will represent Turkey as historians and will express their views.

Meanwhile, in response to a question on a new approach to the Armenian question Prime Minister Turgut Ozal said: "I never used the term 'Armenian terrorism' in my remarks. I asked you to refer to it as 'ASALA's terrorism' or simply as 'terrorism.' That is all I said."

The experts also expressed their views in this regard. Professor Ataov said: "The Treaty of Sevres was dead the day it was signed. It could not be implemented even at a time when Turkey was at its weakest. No one can resurrect that treaty. Apart from that, the Armenian allegations are in themselves filled with numerous falsehoods. We will expose all of them one by one."

Sinan Aksin said: "During the trial in Paris, we will approach the Armenian question from several perspectives. The Armenian allegations go back until 1895 and even prior to that date. Therefore, the issue must also be examined from our standpoint. The Armenians have definite views of their own. [During World War I] they were carried away by the wartime propaganda the allied powers, and influenced by a number of unimaginable and impossible suggestions they put forth certain absurd claims. Part of these false and unrealistic claims is the issue of the number of the dead. How can it be claimed that 1.5 million Armenians were killed when the entire Armenian population at the time was 1.3 million?"

Politicians also expressed their views regarding Prime Minister Ozal's remarks and evaluated them from their standpoint. Correct Way Party leader Yildirim Avci said:

"The honorable Prime Minister stated that the wrong approach has been taken toward the Armenian question so far. As soon as possible he should show us the correct approach and he must prove the correctness of his views. We hope that his approach on this issue will not suffer the same fate as his approach to democracy and inflation."

Social Democracy Party Secretary General Hicri Fisek said: "I cannot share the honorable Prime Minister's views. I am convinced that the safest approach on this issue is to expose the truths to battle the lies and to defend these truths convincingly. The Armenian allegations do not state that the Ottomans committed a genocide; it is the entire Turkish nation that is being charged with genocide. In view of this fact, in addition to trying to clear the Turkish republic from such charges, efforts must be made to demonstrate historical facts and to expose falsehoods."

Populist Party Secretary General Yilmaz Hasturk said: "The Prime Minister's remarks which are based on well-known sources and which underscore the facts regarding the diagnosis of the Armenian question, can be considered as the first well-defined and correct approach to the issue. When the issue first emerged and was placed on the agenda of the National Assembly, we expressed our views and put forward the necessary proposals. The Turkish republic is not obliged to make concessions to anyone and does not owe an inch of soil to anybody, and these apply to the Armenian issue as well. The Lausanne Treaty is sufficiently clear to provide the necessary explanations on this issue."

Ozal: 'I did not Say Armenian Terrorism'

Prime Minister Turgut Ozal responded to journalists' question after emerging from his weekly meeting with President Kenan Evren in Cankaya. He was asked: "There have been reports in the press about a change in Turkish government policy toward the Armenian question. Can you give us some information on that?" The Prime Minister replied: "I do not know how those reports came about. I saw those reports and I thought to myself: Someone must have slept and must have seen some dreams in his sleep. I cannot explain the distortion of my remarks and the twisting of their meaning in any other way. I said that certain papers must be more careful. What I said was very clear. I said: Do not say 'Armenian terrorism.' Do not use that term. Say 'ASALA terrorism' or simply 'terrorism.' I spoke mostly about this issue. There is a reason for that. In this country there 100,000 to 120,000 Armenians. Are you accusing all of them with terrorism? Or, say, there are so many Armenians around the world. What good is it to make all those Armenians appear as being involved in terrorism? Consequently, being Armenian is one thing, terrorism is another. I said: Just say 'terrorism.' That is the right attitude anyway. For a moment, imagine the opposite. Suppose you are a national minority in a certain country. If someone comes out and says 'Turkish terrorism' and if two or three Turks indeed commit terrorist acts--like Agca and others--would you not feel uncomfortable if someone called that 'Turkish terrorism.' That is what I was trying to say.

"Otherwise, I did not speak about any changes in our stance toward the Armenian question or the need for any change. All I said was that it is wrong to refer to ASALA's crimes as 'Armenian terrorism.' Because then you would be confronting the entire Armenian nation."

9588
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ARMENIAN AFFAIRS

MILLIYET'S 'PROVOCATIVE' CHARGES REFUTED BY ISTANBUL PATRIARCH

Istanbul MARMARA in Armenian 18 Feb 85 p 1

[Text] MILLIYET carries in its today's edition a report from its Ankara bureau and charges that certain suspicions have been raised in connection with the Armenian Patriarchate in Istanbul. This provocative article is filled with false information and tries to make everything look suspicious--everything from Father Manuel Yergatian's arrest to the issue of [Armenian] migrants brought from the provinces to Istanbul--and to raise question marks in people's minds.

The article alleges that suspicions about the Patriarchate were first raised when Father Manuel Yergatian was arrested on the Syrian border for carrying arms, secret documents and a forged identity card. We all know, however, that Father Yergatian was arrested at Yesilkoy airport in Istanbul as he was preparing to leave for Jerusalem.

The article also makes the following allegations:

ASALA [Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia] chided the Patriarchate on the grounds that it did not support the Armenian cause as strongly as it should. ASALA demanded from the Patriarch to be more active and to avoid making statements which blemish their cause and which condemn their acts. Furthermore, during his recent visit to the United States the Patriarch received numerous threats.

In 1981, it was found out that Hrant Kucuk Guzelian was gathering Armenian children in Anatolia and indoctrinating them with anti-Turkish feelings. Meanwhile, Hayko Eldemir stated that he was sent to Jerusalem by Varujan Khrkajian, a priest in the Surp Yerortutyun [Holy Trinity] Church in Istanbul. Also, terrorist Kevork Urfalian hid in a church posing as a priest.

Suspicions were also raised about the Patriarchate when it was found out that poor Armenian families from Anatolian provinces were being brought to Istanbul for resettlement. However, a different motive lay behind this innocent-looking act of charity: to improve the lot of those families and to send their children to the Armenian Seminary in Jerusalem for their education. Sometimes, Assyrian children were also included in this project. Photographs depicting the poverty of these families were sent abroad to be published in pro-Armenian papers. It was never proven, however, that the Armenian Patriarch had made distorting

statements about the condition of Armenians in Turkey in a bid to secure financial assistance. In any case, these Armenian migrant families were made to look as if they were forced to come to Istanbul under pressure by the Turkish government and not by the arrangement of the Patriarchate.

MILLIYET ends the article by claiming that the Patriarchate's suspicious activities are currently being investigated by the authorities.

This morning we questioned His Holiness the Patriarch about this revolting and provocative article. The Patriarch expressed his deep revulsion about the report and said that he will immediately write a letter of denial to the said paper.

Patriarch's Rebuttal

The Armenian Patriarchate of Turkey submitted a statement to the Anatolia Agency yesterday evening refuting the contents of the article published in MILLIYET yesterday and replying to the allegations contained in this unusual article one by one and underscoring the essential facts. Below is a translation of the text of the statement.

We were immensely gratified by the honorable Prime Minister's gracious statement on 13 February to the effect that Armenians are true sons of this country and that the press must be careful about making references that may offend these innocent citizens. Unfortunately, only a week after this statement, we were grieved to see an article in the 18 February 1985 edition of MILLIYET which ran completely contrary to the honorable Prime Minister's suggestions, which had no relation to the truth and which aimed against all Armenian clerics and the Armenian Patriarchate.

Whereas we are living in a peaceful atmosphere and we are engaged in a constructive dialog with our government, we, as the Armenian Patriarch of Turkey, learn from MILLIYET's distortionary article entitled "The Question of the Armed Priest" that we are in fact in a difficult situation. This article is based on material taken from pages 391-395 of Cemal Anadol's book entitled "The Armenian Documents Under the Light of History." The book, published in 1982 by the Turan publishing house, is reminiscent of a sensational detective story. The said article reopens the case of the cleric who was arrested at Yesilkoy airport in 1980 on his way to Jerusalem 3 years after the publication of this book in order to provoke the public opinion against the Armenian Patriarch and the Armenian community. The article is full of completely unfounded allegations. Below, we respond to the article's allegations point by point.

In our opinion, this spurious article in MILLIYET will not only offend the Armenians of Turkey, but will also blemish the reputation of the Turkish press abroad. The Turkish press must avoid passing on to history such unfounded and erroneous news if the world public opinion is to continue respecting and trusting it.

[Signed] Archbishop Shnork Kalustian, Armenian Patriarch of Turkey

9588

CSO: 4605/118

ALGERIA

NABI ON 72ND OPEC CONFERENCE

Algiers ALGERIE ACTUALITE in French No 1003, 3-9 Jan 85 p 17

[Interview with Belkacem Nabi, Algerian minister of chemical and petrochemical industries, by A. Hammouche; date and place of interview not specified]

[Text] Question: Mr Nabi, the 72nd OPEC Conference has just ended in Geneva on a somewhat pessimistic note. What happened?

[Answer] Actually, we failed to agree on the issue of differential rates. Without an agreement on the problem of prices, our decisions on other matters have definitely lost all impact for the time being. We could have initiated a significant shift of [illegible], to achieve control, that is, to finally achieve one of the most important goals that some OPEC countries have always dreamed of, and in a context acceptable to everyone. That is, a context making it possible to establish an equitable price structure--in short, enabling all member countries to compete for their crude in the international market on an equal footing. Had we achieved this goal, we would have really made extremely significant progress. Unfortunately, that didn't happen. The second problem was not tackled at all. A solution that isn't one was finally proposed by Saudi Arabia, and if some countries rejected it, [it is because] most of them believe it represents a false solution and can only diminish OPEC's credibility and contribute to market instability.

Question: Mr Minister, why is the differential rate compromise achieved in Geneva unacceptable to Algeria?

[Answer] Concerning differential rates, it was proposed that the price of heavy crude, exported mainly by Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Venezuela, be raised by \$0.50 and that the price of very light crudes, exported by Algeria, Libya and Nigeria, thus mainly the African countries plus the United Arab Emirates, Iran and Qatar, be reduced by \$0.25 per barrel. That solution would lead to a number of situations: first of all, for countries exporting "heavy" crude, it would have the effect of undeniably increasing their revenues. And, of course, that suits them fine. Secondly, it would result in considerably reducing the revenues of countries exporting "light" crudes. And that does not suit us. Third, such an appreciable reduction of our revenues and appreciable increase in "heavy" crude revenues would make it possible for the price to stay at a constant level, that is, for the wealthy countries'

oil bills to remain the same. In the final analysis, therefore, the proposal made would result in the wealthy countries losing nothing and gaining nothing. But the nominal price for them would not change; in terms of purchasing power, the price per barrel drops. Consequently, the industrial countries would ultimately have the satisfaction that the real price of their imported crude would not rise, but would decline. The revenues of countries exporting "heavy" crude would increase, and the entire burden would be borne by the exporters of "light" crude, that is, mainly the African countries.

The second possible objection to this system is that it does not change the balance of power in any way. Raising [the price of] "heavy" crude by \$0.50 is not what makes it less attractive to buyers, and reducing [the price of] extra-light crudes by \$0.25 is not what makes them competitive for the consumer. This solution would reinforce the idea that something would be gained regarding the competitiveness of noncrude oil. In the final analysis, the proposal made is one in which no one can believe from the consumer standpoint. This solution would have reinforced the currently circulating idea that some [Persian] Gulf countries don't want to solve the problem of differential rates and, as a result, it would have encouraged those strongly in favor of reducing the official price of "marker crude."

Question: What is the Algerian proposal concerning differential rates?

[Answer] Algeria has formulated the following position of principle: First, the revenue of countries exporting "light" crude must not decline. Second, the revenue of the other countries may increase insofar as such increase makes "heavy" and "light" crudes equally competitive. Third, the resulting barrel price shall be whatever it will be.

Question: At the close of the conference, Dr Subroto implied that the price of Arabian Light might drop in the coming months. What do you think?

[Answer] I believe that it is undeniable that some countries, some OPEC delegation leaders, unfortunately launched in the conference corridors the idea of a slight reduction in the price of reference crude and what Dr Subroto said perhaps refers precisely to the idea launched by some [Persian] Gulf countries. I was shocked by such actions, because first of all, the price of "marker crude" was not on the agenda at all and there was no question of changing it. There was a question of reviewing the differential rates of the various crudes in relation to \$29. Whether intentional or not, this manner of launching a "marker crude" price slightly lower than the current price definitely confirms the analysis we made in Algeria when we denounced, several months ago, moves intended to repeat the process we underwent in late 1982 and early 1983, and which led us to lowering the official price of March 1983. Such actions definitely confirm that our analysis was unfortunately correct.

Question: Mr Minister, in light of what has just taken place in Geneva, it appears that some member countries are adopting positions contrary to OPEC's very interests. Is this a lack of maturity or a political choice?

[Answer] I know where such ideas come from and, unfortunately, sometimes they come from horizons in which we have difficulty believing. But the facts are there. I believe that these are extremely dangerous ideas which must be avoided, because the wealthy countries may make some fatal mistakes. Some countries wanting to play a decisive role in OPEC may make the fatal mistake of draining the organization of all its power. Those wanting to destroy OPEC should perhaps think about what will happen afterwards. And I think that within OPEC, we are all strong and powerful: those producing 300,000 barrels/day as well as those producing 3 million barrels/day. Outside of OPEC, we will all be weaker than we are today.

11915
CSO: 4519/88

ALGERIA

BRIEFS

APS-TANJUG AGREEMENT--An agreement was signed today in Belgrade between the Algerian News Agency APS and TANJUG News Agency of Yugoslavia on the use of direct telex line between the two agencies. The agreement, signed by the directors general of the two agencies will make it possible for the agencies to develop their cooperation and reinforce the nonaligned pool of news agencies. [Excerpt] [Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 8 Mar 85 LD]

ALGERIAN-ARGENTINE ENERGY PROTOCOL--Algerian-Argentine relations: a protocol of agreement of cooperation in the energy field was signed today. Furthermore, the two sides are about to end a pilot study for the creation of an Algerian-Argentine joint venture for the manufacture of drilling equipment. [Text] [Algiers Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 20 Mar 85 LD]

MESSAADIA MEETS WITH PLO'S QADDUMI--Brother Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the Politburo and head of the party's Permanent Secretariat, held talks this afternoon at central headquarters with Faruq Qaddumi, member of the Central Committee and head of the Political Department of the PLO. The latter was accompanied by Abu Iyad, member of the Fatah Central Committee. During the meeting the latest developments in the Arab arena, especially the Palestinian situation, were reviewed. [Text] [Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 3 Mar 85 LD]

CSO: 4500/62

EGYPT

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION AT JUNE NPUG CONFERENCE

Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 27 Feb 85 p 7

[Article by Husayn 'Abd Rabbuh: "Second Plenary Conference of 27, 28 June 1985; Colonialism, Zionism, Parasitism Remain Egypt's Primary Foes; Political Dialogue on Capitalism, Directing It and Its Role in Society"]

[Text] During meetings on 21 and 22 February, the Central Committee decided that the second plenary conference would be held on 27 and 28 June 1985 on condition that the final session of the Central Committee be held on 26 June. The committee also decided that unit elections would be held from 15 March to 15 April, with subdivision and district conferences and election of steering committees beginning on 15 May, so that governorate conferences can begin and all governorate committees can be elected by 15 June 1985.

According to Khalid Muhyi-al-Din, secretary general of the NPUG, the secretariat wanted to handle questions related to the second plenary conference very seriously, "Since we think it is the most important party event and we must prepare for it well. We are making every effort to see to it that the second plenary session will be able to discuss the most important party issues, which are those pertaining to the party political line, its organizational structure, its political struggle and its activities among the people. This is clear from the documents which we have prepared for submission to the plenary session."

These documents--the political report, the draft of proposed changes to the internal organization regulations, the AL-AHALI report, supplementary principles for the elections and modification of some articles of the Progressive Women's Union regulations--were the subject of discussions on Thursday and Friday that proved, as the secretary general said, "How concerned the members of the Central Committee are that the party discuss documents that accurately reflect the direction the party and its elections are taking."

Directing Capitalism and Eliminating Parasitism

After measures were completed dealing with the chairmanship of the Central Committee meeting and its agenda, discussion of the political report began.

Dr Jalal Rajab (Kafr al-Shaykh) said: "The governorate has prepared a comprehensive paper containing our view on the question of directing capitalism, and we request that the committee approve its distribution among papers submitted to the plenary conference for discussion. This paper raises two questions; the first is, can Egyptian capitalism be directed, or can it submit to direction? The second is, will capitalism, with the dominance of its producing sectors, lead to the flowering of political democracy?"

Dr Jalal said, "Historical experience since the birth of capitalism confirms that it has failed in development. The July revolution's wide-scale attempt to direct it from 1952 to 1960 prevented all sectors of capitalism from participating in development. As far as democratic practices go, we all know the extent of the arsenal of laws restricting general liberties enacted by Egyptian capitalism since it came to power. That was necessary when its economic dreams became clear. For these reasons, the only way to extricate ourselves from the current crisis is to bring back the economic structure that was formed in the sixties in preparation for socialist transformation."

Muhammad Sayyid Ahmad, (Secretariat) said, "Today we are preparing a report for the plenary conference defining the identity of the party in the next stage. Consequently, I will concentrate on three essential points:

1. Is there a substantive possibility of directing capitalism in Egypt or must we go beyond this issue and be prepared to propose the alternative? In other words, will the democratic revolution become separate from the socialist revolution or is it one continuous struggle?
2. Is our main conflict still with imperialism and Zionism, or must we begin a battle within the Islamic ferment and the source of the unbridled consequence hidden therein--sectarian discord--making a distinction in this battle between enlightened religious forces and fanatics, who by their position serve the counterrevolution?
3. The third point is the diminishing petroleum supply and drop in prices, and the return of many workers who have acquired new standards of living, the predominance of 'open-door' consumer values and their spreading throughout society, particularly in the countryside, with the explosive situations to be expected as a result of this."

Dr Ibrahim Sa'd-al-Din (Secretariat) commented on the raising of the issue of guiding capitalism and asked whether the party had set a goal called "guiding capitalism", saying: "Our party has no such goal; however, guidance is part of the party's practical tactics of concentrating on, surrounding and attacking parasitic capitalism since it is the key to our battle against capitalism. The political report made this quite clear when it said:

"Our battle against subservience to foreigners is our main battle, but our battle against parasitism is the crux of all our battles in the coming stage. We must eliminate parasitism--we must eliminate its control over the economy and the state and change from a distorted capitalism society to a society

free from subservience to foreigners lead by democratic nationalist classes and forces made up of laborers and producers."

Al-Badri Farghali (Port Said) objected to the manner in which issues were arranged and dealt with in the political report. He demanded that the report begin with the domestic political situation, and he added that adhering to front activity would for all practical purposes result in adhering to far-reaching mass activity, since front activity is a part of the latter. He said that bringing down Camp David is not an Arab job, but is an Egyptian job first and foremost. Eliminating subservience in Egypt is the duty of the Egyptian people and is linked to bringing down the Camp David Accords and the Camp David way.

Husayn 'Abd al-Raziq (Secretariat) praised the portion on the international situation, but had reservations about the Arab portion. He said that he would present his viewpoint during the discussions at the organizational level and during the "dialogue".

Yusuf Ibrahim (al-Minya) said that there is an issue that did not receive the attention it deserves in the political report despite its tremendous significance for our lives and for the development of political conditions in Egypt. This issue is American assistance and its effect and role in creating a cadre with extensive effect and influence linked with the American assistance organization at all administrative levels as well as at the local level.

Rashid 'Uthman (Sawhaj) said, "We as a party speak and debate on behalf of the working people. The people ask us, 'Members of the NPUG, what have you done for us? We want something practical.' I believe that the easiest thing we can do is raise issues...we can raise issues before the courts on behalf of peasants or employees, those issues that trouble their lives. It is not enough to analyze their causes and define demands or propose alternative solutions--we must take a practical position."

Faridah al-Naqqash (al-Daqahliyah) demanded that the paragraph which talks about the international status report on the "North and South" be struck. She said that this paragraph represents a departure from party policy since talking about North and South or rich and poor means knocking down the objective scientific division of today's world and it conflicts with the fundamental concepts of the national liberation movement as expressed by Jamal 'Abd-al-Nasir in 1964, when he said that struggle throughout the world was between socialism and the national liberation movement on the one hand and the capitalist and colonialist countries on the other.

Anis al-Bayya' (Damietta) said that he rejected the absolute acceptance of independent Palestinian decision-making. "If we strongly criticize Syria's and Libya's role toward the PLO, we ignore the role of the Arab right in the current impasse which we see growing worse and worse. Even if our views are right and similar, we must not tie ourselves to one faction, Fatah."

Anis asked who would be responsible for guiding [capitalism] and who would struggle for this issue--"Do we not have to demand nationalization of banks and foreign companies as the bottom line?"

Muhammad 'Iraqi (al-Daqahliyah, secretary of the peasants' union) agreed with what comrade Faridah al-Naqqash said about North and South, saying that the world is not divided only by geography but is governed by relationships in the struggle. He also demanded that a stronger stand be taken toward the U.S. position aimed at breaking up the United Nations and its international organizations such as UNESCO. He also called for intensive concentration on American activity aimed at reformulating agricultural relationships in the Egyptian countryside in the interest of the big landowners and the parasites.

Mahmud Hamid (Qina) asked, "Why do we not have a clear strategy toward the Arab world according to which our position toward this or that Arab party could be defined?" He also said that he agreed with everything comrade Husayn 'Abd al-Raziq said about party organizational issues and problems. He warned that formal compliance with political formulas would have a very bad effect on the entire party structure. He also urged the Progressive Women's Union be a task for all party members, not just female members.

'Abd-al-Majid Ahmad (al-Buhayrah) said, "We should not blame only al-Sadat for the corruption and subservience, since the policy of subservience and corruption still exists. Such single-mindedness means to the people that al-Sadat and only al-Sadat was responsible, not an entire class. The issue is not the power of an individual, but the power of a class of parasites who still have the upper hand in society and the state."

'Uryan Nasif (al-Gharbiyah) reaffirmed what Faridah al-Naqqash and Shaykh 'Iraqi said about the North and South. He then said that the main issue was that of subservience, "Which we face in all spheres of life in Egypt, even our daily bread. Just as the report says, it has become the crux of all our battles. This requires that we have a method of political and organizational action defining steps and responsibilities and turning our socialist policies into specific, tangible demands."

Fakhri Labib (Cairo) said, "North and South is an erroneous ideological concept 'confusing' the cards and putting the positions of the colonialist capitalist countries on an equal footing with those of the socialist countries. This is the most important thing--it hurts the international front. Who is friend and ally and who is enemy? The issue, then, is not one of North or South, but one of subservience. To be truthful, the issue of the front or front activity, whether internationally, in the Arab world or locally, was not dealt with in the report submitted to us as it should have been. For example, the report contained a section about parties in Egypt today and our position on them and the issue of an Arab country getting close to an Egyptian faction. What is the essence of the Arab front? The tasks in Part III of the report should be redefined."

'Adil Diyab (al-Daqahliyah) asked, "Will this program be realized by our struggling alone or by inducing the people to adopt the program and defend it? We must search for the impediments to the movement of the masses, their mobilization and their acceptance of political activity and struggle. If they remain distant or absent altogether, we must redefine the priorities of our political activity."

Muhammad Taha (al-Daqahliyah) said, "With every meeting of the Central Committee, I am more proud and honored to be a member of the party. The leading cadre of the NPUG has proven themselves capable of defining our path in the counterattacks by the parasites who compete with the people's movement and have no real solution to the people's problems after having opened Egypt's doors to allow all the international monopolies to come in and deplete the country's resources. Talk of a new world order is another attempt to prop up an ailing liberal line that will be paid for by the people. For this reason, we must define the true vision of what our goals will achieve, the goals for which we strive as a revolutionary party."

Ahmad Mustafa (Alexandria) said, "The political report does not spell out an overall strategy, since it does not give a clear alternative to extricate ourselves from subservience and corruption and the path laid for these through the increasing effect of the worldwide capitalist crisis in Egypt, which is a crisis of stagnation and inflation. In the Arab world, the Lebanese nationalist movement and the Lebanese resistance are showing us successful examples and means of confronting imperialism and Zionism."

'Abd-al-Hamid Kamal (Suez) said, "Last October's session of the Central Committee clearly spelled out the problems of organizational activity, unlike the organizational report submitted to us today, which failed to specify deficiencies and shortcomings, particularly in activities of the central committees."

Dr Samir Fayyad (Cairo) said, "The NPUG is a party which brings together leftist Egyptian groups. If we want this type of party to continue, it must not live in the past. It faces three challenges as part of the distorted capitalist challenge: our socialist program and policies, what we will accept within a democratic nationalist front and the urgent solutions which the NPUG can offer to issues raised by the state and by the people."

Four Comments

The Central Committee then listened to four comments on the debate on the draft political report presented by Central Committee members Lutfi al-Khuli, Muhammad Sayyid Ahmad, 'Abd-al-Ghaffar Shukr and Dr Fu'ad Mursi. The session then resumed debate on the draft of proposed changes to the organization by-laws. The floor was given to comrades Abu-Sayf Yusuf and Husayn 'Abd-Rabbuh to state their viewpoints before the Central Committee. The floor was then opened for general discussion, in which 22 members participated. The second session of the Central Committee concluded with agreement to submit the draft political report and draft proposed changes to the by-laws, along with appended documents containing the Central Committee's discussions and viewpoint, for general discussion at party levels.

EGYPT

BRIEFS

RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS OFFICIAL SUSPENDED--Al-SHA'B has learned that the minister of religious trusts has announced the decision to suspend Dr Ra'uf Shalabi, undersecretary-designate of the ministry, after Dr Shalabi's decision to reinstate Shaykh 'Abd-al-Hamid Kishk. The implementation of this decision had been greatly anticipated. Citizen 'Abd-al-Karim 'Abd-al-'Azim sent a notice of request by a process-server to the religious trusts minister, requesting him to permit Shaykh Kishk to return to 'Ayn al-Hayat mosque in al-Qubbah Gardens. The request is in preparation for legal proceedings to be brought before the Council of State by our colleague Abu-al-Fadl al-Jizawi, member of the Socialist Labor Party (SLP) Executive Council. He is pleading the unconstitutionality of the amendments made to the penal code which provide for prohibiting mosque imams from speaking on nonreligious issues, which is contrary to constitutional stipulations and human rights accords. Also, the SLP Council in al-Qubbah Gardens sent a telegram to the office of the president of the republic deplored the fact that reinstatement of Shaykh Kishk had been abandoned. This was the cause of disruptive incidents among the popular masses, who had been pleased with the decision [to restore Kishk] as a corrective step. [Text] [Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 12 Mar 85 p 1]

CSO: 4504/266

MOROCCO

BRIEFS

PROTEST LODGED ON CSSR BOOKLET--Rabat, 16 Mar (MAP)--The director general for political affairs in the Moroccan Ministry of Foreign Affairs received on Friday in Rabat the Czechoslovak ambassador to Morocco to whom he expressed the indignation of the Moroccan Government following slanderous allegations contained in the booklet "The Developing Countries and World Peace," distributed in the hall of the Seventh Art [as received] in Rabat on the occasion of the week of Czechoslovak Film. The Czechoslovak ambassador expressed his government's deep-felt regrets as to the contents of this booklet which are in total contradiction with the stand of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic on the Saharan question. He also reiterated his country's wish to consolidate its relations with the Moroccan Kingdom in all fields. After listening to the explanations made by the Czechoslovak ambassador, the political affairs director general stressed that Morocco continues to seek solid relations with Czechoslovakia based on the principles of mutual respect and noninterference in internal affairs. [Text] [Rabat MAP in French 1000 GMT 16 Mar 85 LD]

INTERNATIONAL CRESCENT ACCORD SIGNED--Jeddah, 8 Mar (MAP)--Morocco signed here Thursday at the headquarters of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) an accord on the creation of the Islamic Committee of the International Crescent stemming from the OIC. This accord was signed by Moroccan Ambassador to Saudi Arabia and delegate to the OIC, M. Zayn al-Abidin Elalaoui, in the presence of the OIC secretary general, M. Sharaf-al-Din Pirzada. On this occasion, M. Elalaoui reaffirmed Moroccan backing of all OIC efforts to strengthen Islamic Solidarity and help the organization play a leading role at the Islamic and international levels. The International Crescent Islamic Committee was created following a decision of the tenth conference of Islamic foreign affairs ministers held in 1979 in Fes. [Text] [Rabat MAP in English 1202 GMT 8 Mar 85 LD]

CUSTOMS FRAUDS CONVENTION WITH SPAIN--Rabat, 19 Mar (MAP)--A convention on mutual administrative assistance in the struggle against customs frauds was concluded here Monday between Morocco and Spain. The convention, the first of its kind Morocco concludes with another country was signed by the minister of finance, Mr Abdellatif Jouahiri and the ambassador of Spain to Morocco, Mr Raimundo Bassols. Under this convention, the minister explained, the two countries will work out a juridical framework in the area of struggle against customs frauds and the smuggling of currency. Under this agreement, Spain

will, also facilitate the transit of Moroccan workers who cross the Spanish Territory to go abroad and mainly those who definitely return to Morocco. The latter will no longer present bank guarantees requested by the Spanish Customs Administration regarding their goods, furniture, professional tools and other personal goods they carry upon their return to Morocco. The two countries, added the minister, agreed to hold a meeting every year in one or the other country to allow the Spanish and Moroccan Administrations coordinate their action in this area and to see to the implementation of this convention. [Text] [Rabat MAP in English 1204 GMT 19 Mar 85 LD]

CSO: 4500/64

AFGHANISTAN

PEOPLE'S SOVEREIGNTY SAID TO BE STRENGTHENED IN FARAH

Kabul HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR in Dari 4 Feb 85 pp 1, 2

[Text] Farah is the land of valiant fighting men where, from ancient times, its brave offsprings have answered the onslaught of invaders and occupiers with their lives, courageously defending their motherland.

Under present-day conditions of the revolutionary sovereignty of workers and peasants of the country, it is a place of constructive work and battle for the comfort of our toilers.

The city of Farah, a place of progress and growth as its name implies, is developing. In the city's southern sector known as Fereydun, modern well-constructed buildings along the highway add to the attractiveness of Farah. The city has 20,000 residents living peaceful lives. The brave and proud people of Farah, despite their common border with Iran, have not allowed counterrevolutionary bandits to be an obstacle in the way of the expanding strength of revolutionary sovereignty. The toilers of Farah, cognisant of the realities of the revolution, have always been ready to fight to protect the interests of the people and the benefits brought by the revolution alongside the country's valiant armed forces. Referring to this aspect, the secretary of the Farah provincial party council said: "The provincial party committee, government organs and security organs of Farah, have, with courage and selflessness, devoted themselves more than ever to resolving the issue of fighting the counterrevolution and to matters related to the economic, social and educational life of our fellow-citizens in this part of the country.

Following operations to clean up the regions of Lorku and Kasbagin, during which the 110-man group of Habi ol-Rahman and Taleb-e 'Alam's big group were annihilated, other counterrevolutionary bands were destroyed and their hideouts, along with large quantities of arms and ammunition, as well as organizational documents showing the ties of the counterrevolutionary bands with reactionary circles of the region and their clear interference in the internal affairs of our country, were seized. The toilers of those regions became well rid of the bandits. Moreover, groups which had been fooled by enemy propaganda and had adopted

a hostile stance against the sovereignty of the masses, realizing the humane policy of our popular party and government, joined their revolutionary government in the villages of Posht-e Rud and Es-gaq Zay, Yazdeh and other places and formed tribal units and security posts in the defense of villages and hamlets concerned.

Thus, with the passing of each day, lasting security in localities is being boosted and the lives of residents are becoming more productive in the country's revolutionary environment of work and battle.

Jalaloddin Dehqan, 57, of the village of Now Deh, while expressing deep satisfaction with measures taken by our popular party and government concerning the welfare and comfort of the country's toilers said: Despite water shortages which we have always faced, this year's agricultural output was plentiful. At the market, a maund [80 lbs] of wheat fetches 95 afghani. We had good crops of our L'al grape and rakhri pomegranate.

If more attention were paid to providing water supplies and in repairing channels, the agricultural output of Farah Province which has good soil and is productive, would not only meet the needs of residents but would also supply the needs of our fellow-citizens in other provinces of the country. Under the protection of the revolutionary sovereignty, the toilers are engaged in such local occupations as farming, orchard keeping, and livestock breeding. Because of their efforts and despite the permanent shortage of water, farm output has been satisfactory. Government organs have drawn up and implemented economic plans and construction of modern buildings and educational institutions. An example of this is the completion of the new concrete building of the Watan orphanage which was put up and completed by the direct cooperation of residents.

At present more than 3,000 students are undergoing education and training at Abu Nasr Qarahi lycee, the girls lycee and middle school No 1 and 2 and the agricultural vocational school. In various districts of Farah province, 21 elementary and middle schools are providing education to our children and youth.

Bearing in mind that the normalization of the situation in various localities requires the expansion and strengthening of the sovereignty of the people and the establishment of lasting peace and security, security forces and the 21st mechanized brigade with top level military training, good morale and iron-like military discipline, have effectively acted to eradicate the bandits wherever necessary.

5854
CSO: 4665/43

AFGHANISTAN

TWO THOUSAND GRADUATES TO WORK IN MINISTRIES, OTHER INSTITUTIONS

Kabul HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR in Dari 5 Feb 85 p 4

[Text] This year two Kabul and Bayazid Roshan universities are giving society graduates in various fields.

The graduates, armed with knowledge and scientific experience, will take part in the building of a new society after a training period.

We bring you some of the conversations we had with a number of graduates from these universities.

Abdol Nasser, graduate from the engineering school of Kabul University: Before I enrolled in the university, I had always wanted to have a share in the reconstruction of my country as an engineer. Now that I have had my wish, I am ready to shoulder my responsibilities and hope to be able to carry out this mission for the people and the country and to put what I have learned to good use in the reconstruction of blossoming Afghanistan.

Es'haq, graduate from the school of literature: One of the most gratifying times of my life has been studying in Kabul University in the field of my choice. Getting to know students and professors of this center of learning is something I shall never forget.

Now that I have completed my studies I want to do another thing I have wanted to do: to serve the people of my land and the revolution and to carry out the pledge I gave to my country and the people.

I am ready to go to any part of the country in order to serve the people.

Khawar, animal husbandry graduate from the agricultural college of Bayazid Roshan University: The majority of our people are engaged in farming and livestock breeding. I have often been aware that my fellow-countrymen are in need of experts in such fields.

Now that I have benefited from all opportunities for better education provided by our revolutionary party and government and have graduated, I want to serve my fellow-countrymen in resolving their problems.

Ajab Gol, graduate from the division of stomatology of the Kabul government medical institute: Even as the undeclared war of reaction and imperialism against our country continues and toilers of our country are defending the land and the revolution in farthest corners of our country, we young people were given the opportunity for education.

I will always be grateful to the people and will not spare any help in improving their health. We must give in service to our land what we received in the learning process. I must note here with gratitude and appreciation the sincere manner in which our Afghan professors placed their experiences at our disposal. I must express appreciation to Soviet professors who, as true friends, extended us help in a sincere fashion.

The government committee on employment and social security of the DRA is putting into effect a plan based on the assignment of the young experts according to the best facilities available for the graduates. The director-general of the committee said in this regard: According to the law governing the assignment of young experts and on the basis of the general plan, commissions on the assignment of young experts have been formed in the Ministry of Higher and Vocational Education and the distribution of individuals took place under the supervision of these commissions.

In order to create necessary facilities for graduates and their rapid referral to offices and institutions, the government committee on employment and social security has provided the Ministry of Higher and Vocational Education with job application forms in which the final place of assignment of graduates is recorded and which are then returned to the government committees on employment and social security. Thus the referral of graduates to ministries, office and institutions in need of such graduates has begun.

In the current year [which ends 20 March 1985] some 2,000 graduates of universities, secondary schools, vocational schools, institutes and trade schools of the country have been referred for employment. Subsequently, offices and institutions have applied for 2-year military exemption certificates for the graduates they need according to enclosure No 4 of the military conscription law and the determination of the Council of Ministers.

5854
CSO: 4665/42

AFGHANISTAN

KARMAI: WE SHARE SAME HISTORY WITH BORDER TRIBES

Kabul HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR in Dari 5 Feb 85 pp 1, 3

[Text] Comrade Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the Central Committee of the PDPA and chairman of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA, met yesterday with Vazir tribe elders and representatives at the Revolutionary Council headquarters.

During his conversation with elders and representatives of the Vazir tribe, comrade Babrak Karmal said: The brave clans of Vazir have a shining history of fighting imperialism and have carried out heavy responsibilities in the evolution of the movement of Pashtuns.

Comrade Babrak Karmal said: The valor of the Vazir clans in the independence war of Afghanistan, where for the first time in Asia the Afghans became victorious over powerful British imperialism, deserves praise.

While referring to the historic role of border tribes in safeguarding the independence of Afghanistan, a role which they carried out valiantly along with other brother nationalities of Afghanistan, Comrade Babrak Karmal drew the attention of the Vazir elders to aggressions which are being carried out against the freedom and independence of Afghanistan by Pakistan and Iran following orders of American imperialists.

Comrade Babrak Karmal added: According to the wishes of our people, we want to create within our domain a flourishing and free society in which the reputation and honor of Afghans will be safe and where people can live with pride and tranquility. Yet, in our neighborhood, Pakistani military chiefs who are controlled by others are exercising enmity toward us and are causing war and devastation to our country. We cannot tolerate such evident aggression against our people. Any time anyone who decides to continue the war against us and to disturb the life of our people, will be punished according to the verdict of history.

Comrade Babrak Karmal said: Our border tribes have such deep historic, racial, economic and spiritual ties with all nationalities and tribes of Afghanistan that make them natural allies of our other peoples and for this reason throughout history border tribes have accepted one destiny. They have not and will not tolerate our fatherland being soiled by the dirty shadow of aggressive forces and the lackeys of colonialism.

Comrade Babrak Karmal went on to outline the nature and characteristic of the Sawr Revolution, adding: Only those oppose the Sawr Revolution who do not accept brotherhood with the people of Afghanistan and are enemies of social progress and wellbeing of millions of our masses.

Comrade Babrak Karmal referred to the worthy customs and traditions of the Pashtuns and in paying homage to traditional assemblies of tribes and nationalities, said: In the DRA, the basic decisions of the assemblies are looked upon with appreciation and, in conformity with experience and the needs of the revolution, effort is being made to make such assemblies better organized and more complete than before.

Comrade Babrak Karmal said: Patriotism, pride for the people and the land and the defense of the country's honor, national independence and territorial integrity are part of the proud traditions and customs of brother nationalities living in our country. -

Comrade Babrak Karmal added: Our revolution has and will render ineffective those intrigues that cause friction between various tribes and nationalities--intrigues with which our enemies want to divide our brothers and destroy them one by one.

Comrade Babrak Karmal said: The Sawr Revolution has opened the way for the unity, brotherhood and alliance of all nationalities, peoples and tribes. I am asking you and all the people of Afghanistan to join the vast National Fatherland Front in order to sever the hand of imperialism and those of its lackeys from our beloved and respected country.

During the get-together at which Abdol Rashid Vaziri, deputy in the Ministry of Nationalities and Tribal Affairs was also present, Hayat Khan, head of the Assembly of Vazir clans, representing the others, said: The Vazir clans, not only now but throughout history, have had unbreakable ties with the people of Afghanistan. As in the past, the Vazir people take part in the defense of beloved Afghanistan. This covenant has existed alongside history up to the present day.

Hayat Khan said: Afghanistan is our fatherland. Nobody can separate us from the people of Afghanistan.

He expressed sincere gratitude for the warm remarks of comrade Babrak Karmal which reflected the greatness of Afghanistan. At the end of the meeting, according to Afghan mark of respect and tradition and a sign of national honor and pride, Malek Hayat Khan presented comrade Babrak Karmal with a kerchief.

AFGHANISTAN

LAND REFORM OBJECTIVE TO ABOLISH FEUDAL SYSTEM

Kabul ANIS in Dari 7 Feb 85 p 2

[Text] The democratic land and water reform policy of the PDPA and our revolutionary government rests on the principle that only through a thorough elimination of the feudal system can the possibility of the growth of productive forces, transformations in the system of land ownership, utilization of land to the benefit of peasants and consequently basic changes in villages and rural areas of the country be assured.

Accordingly, the foremost scope of the land policy of the PDPA and the DRA is to put limitations on the property of big landowners and to distribute land to landless or near-landless peasants, including the supply of material and technical assistance coupled with the strengthening of the cooperative movement in rural areas with the voluntary participation of peasants in agricultural cooperatives, the resolution of the problem of irrigation and the fair distribution of water in rural areas, and the creation of large mechanized agricultural units using the latest scientific and technical methods--this being considered the democratic solution to the problem of land and the rapid expansion of agriculture in the country.

According to Babrak Karmal's emphasis to the effect that "the fate of the national, democratic, anti-feudal and anti-imperialist revolution in the final analysis depends on the solution of the land problem, that is the realization of democratic land and water reforms", the party and the government of the DRA are fully determined to help in the formation of agricultural cooperatives and expansion of their activities, fair distribution and sale of farm products, carrying out construction projects, repair of irrigation systems and networks and roads, schools, hospitals and other public-benefit projects, the strengthening of relations between peasants and workers and various levels of the people, in order to create favorable conditions for the wise and effective use of land and the expansion of agricultural productive forces and the strengthening of the material foundation, as well as to make better use of scientific and progress know-how and providing material and technical assistance to landowners. This type of assistance will be given first to peasants who have become landowners in the course of land reforms. Within the framework of the National Fatherland Front, the PDPA intends to bring about the utmost suitable conditions for the unity and the up-grading of the level of awareness of peasants and their social activities. Finally, for the total

abolition of the vestiges of the feudalistic system in the economic and social life of the peasants of the country and to insure social justice and the educational progress of all nationalities, these objectives in the present stage of democratic land reforms are to be implemented in the following manner: 1) in order to achieve basic solutions of the democratic land and water reforms, peasants, nomads, farm workers and peasants with limited amount of land are organized and mobilized in order that they may take active and positive part in the major decisions of the party and the government, including democratic land and water reforms; 2) in accordance with Decree No 8 (attachment to No 1) and Regulation No 1, land and water in excess of fixed quota will be taken without compensation from feudal landowners and distributed free of charge to peasants with little or no land, farm hands and nomads and the transfer and settlement of peasants and nomads from one province to another will be resorted to when the province in question has land and water in excess of the needs of its people for distribution; 3) land in excess of set quotas and state land measuring 100 hectares or more will be converted into a state farm while land of smaller area but more than 20 hectares will be turned over to the local agricultural cooperative concerned and plots below 20 hectares will be distributed among peasants with little or no land and agricultural workers; 4) land settlement decrees and Regulation No 2 of Decree No 8 will apply in case of quota surplus land and abandoned land; 5) Before determining lands suitable for new distribution and recording the status of the implemented first phase land reforms throughout the country will be assessed and in case of those who may have lost their property illegally, the land in question will be returned to them and/or to their relatives and, in their absence, to another deserving person. Those deserving individuals who may have lost their land ownership deeds or have not received such deeds, will be given such official documents. In the case of those who had abandoned their land but returned before or during implementation of the program, their land will be returned to them according to their relevant set quotas.

Books relating to land registrations, home registers of the deserving, land distribution and other records, as well as files and forms which may have been destroyed by fire or other means, will be prepared again.

Revolutionary peasant committees will be set up to oversee distribution of land. These will include representatives of peasants, representatives of social organizations and all levels of all national and democratic strata, including the clergy, while peasant committees will be formed in areas where the land reform program is under way in order to distribute water according to law and the regulation governing the use of water in agriculture; 6) before operational plans for democratic land and water reforms are implemented nationwide, they must be carried out in the first phase in those provinces which are determined by the commission of the PDPA Central Committee.

It must be said in conclusion that the democratic land and water reforms are being carried out for the benefit of the suffering and toiling peasants of the country with due regard to customs, traditions, mores and characteristics of the people.

AFGHANISTAN

FAIR IRRIGATION SERVICES UNDERTAKEN

Kabul DEHQAN in Dari 31 Jan 85 p 1

[Text] In order to carry out the regulation, fair distribution and effect use of water in the DRA, the Ministry of Irrigation was created for the first time and the water resources law went into effect and technological, technical and material help to peasants was carried out through irrigation offices.

The Irrigation Department of Kabul Province was created in 1360 [21 March 1981-20 March 1982] as were similar departments opened in the same year in the districts of Deh Sabz, Bagrami and Char Asiyab, in the following year in the districts of Mir Bachah Kut and Qara Bagh and in the current year in the administrative centers of the districts of Shekar Darreh and Yaghman.

Speaking of irrigation services provided peasants by districts of Kabul province, an official of the Kabul Department of Irrigation said: In celebration of the 20th founding anniversary of the PDPA, unprecedented work has been carried out during the current year [ending 20 March 1985] in cleaning canals and channels: 106 kilometers of waterways have been cleaned in Kabul Province, involving 163,000 cubic meters in each month of the year. Also, free technical aid was provided to peasants in cleaning 64,420 cubic meters of waterways and canals. Moreover, repair and renovation of 9 dam barriers were carried out in districts of Kabul Province and 900,000 afghani material help has been extended to peasants, and as a result of services rendered by the Irrigation Department, the water supply situation in more than 26,000 hectares has improved.

In addition, the water rights of 2,848 households were registered by representatives of peasant committees which include democratic land and water reform operational groups, and 27 peasant committees have been set up in order to resolve disputes about water supplies.

5854
CSO: 4665/43

AFGHANISTAN

ORCHARD PRODUCTS SOLD THROUGH COOPERATIVES

Kabul DEHQAN in Dari 31 Jan 85 p 6

[Text] A source at the provincial council of the peasants' union of Samangan Province told the DEHQAN correspondent sent to the area: The provincial council of the Samangan peasants union was set up in 1984 in order to mobilize and organize peasants and other toilers and to supply essential goods needed by the residents. Up to now, it has produced noticeable results.

A district union has been set up in Kholm and the council has been able to form 4 cooperatives--3 consumer groups and another cooperative for steam boiler handicrafts [as published] in the suburbs of Aybak and the district of Kholm with a total membership of 751 of whom 270 are peasants.

It must be noted that the capital share of the cooperatives is 713,510 afghani. The source added: In the past 9 months, 1,255,105 afghani worth of essential goods needed by the people were provided for them at 15-20 percent less than market rates. From this source, 111,222 afghani was the net revenue derived by the cooperatives to strengthen their financial position.

Moreover, in order to buy farm products from the peasants, prevent the involvement of unscrupulous individuals and to control prices in the market, the union has opened a shop which has purchased 1.2 million afghani worth of surplus farm products such as rice and wheat and offered them to consumers at below market rates.

In addition, the plan is that according to a decision by the party committee of Samangan Province, beginning in 1364 [21 March 1985-20 March 1986] this union will buy surplus orchard products such as pistachios, walnuts, other dried fruits as well as cumin seed, edible oil seeds, asafoetida, etc., from the orchard growers. These products will then be sold through the cooperatives--something which the union has included in its development plan for the abovementioned year.

In honor of the 20th founding anniversary of the PDPA, the peasants' union has opened a consumer cooperative in Kholm District called "Niki" [goodness] with a membership of 58 peasants and a capital of 54,000 afghani, another shop has been opened for the purchase of surplus products of peasants and orchard owners and 7 of its members have formed a self-defense group and have taken up arms in defense of the revolution and peace.

AFGHANISTAN

COUNCIL ON HOUSING TO IMPROVE LIVING CONDITIONS

Kabul ANIS in Dari 6 Feb 85 p 1

[Text] In the current year [ending 20 March 1985] Kabul's second regional council of the National Fatherland Front has been able to set up 13 new residential councils within its jurisdiction, with an enrollment of 488 persons on an individual basis. Thus, Kabul's second regional council now has 17 residential councils, with a membership of 611 on an individual basis. The council also has 11,523 members participating on a group basis, individuals who have had and continue to have a significant part in the work and activities of the council.

A source at the second Kabul area council of the National Fatherland Front added the following: This council has carried out 43 voluntary work projects involving the cleaning and repairing of mosques, streets and waterways and in providing drinking water, etc. This was done with the participation of 2,150 persons involving 6,450 man-hours of work. These projects netted the national treasury a substantial sum of money. Also the operatives of these council have taken an active part in the election of their precinct representatives.

Moreover, 11 domestic relations commissions set up by the abovementioned council in Kabul succeeded in settling 42 family disputes fairly in the current year. Three 11-man voluntary groups at the level of the same council are helping and cooperating with families who are left without a head of household or are in need of assistance. It should be noted that the council in question has set up PTA associations in order to resolve problems which may arise between students and teachers, and it has referred 36 individuals of Revolution Defense groups to the security region for induction.

The source said: Eighteen patients were sent to health centers for treatment and 9 members of needy families were referred to the Afghan Red Crescent. Relief supplies were delivered to 44 members of families of those martyred in defense of the revolution. Also, as a result of the request of residents for extension of drinking water pipes, a total of 80 meters of piped water were extended in different localities and a deep well was sunk in the Moradkhani sector.

The abovementioned council is operating 7 literacy courses with the participation of 135 citizens who need to learn reading and writing. Three more courses will begin as soon as suitable work space is found.

AFGHANISTAN

OFFICIAL RADIO COMMENTS ON DEATH OF RESISTANCE LEADER

Paris LIBERATION in French 23-24 Feb 85 p 17

[Text] "The bandit Zabiullah, responsible for the assassination of 3,200 innocent persons in Afghanistan, is dead." With this party-line eulogy, the official Afghan radio confirmed the death, more than 2 months ago, of one of the most dynamic leaders of the Afghan resistance. At 30 years of age, this young teacher, trained in politics by Muslem Brothers and in guerrilla warfare by his friend, Ma'sud, the "Lion of Panjshir" embodied the hope of the resistance in the province of Mazar-e Sharif, adjoining the Soviet Union, where with astonishing energy he organized Afghan resistance into a veritable liberation army. The false "tribute" Radio Kabul rendered him gives proof of his importance. This "counterrevolutionary", whose death was "mourned by the imperialists," killed "children, women, old people, and Muslem mullahs." He organized innumerable "sabotage" operations in Kabul, Mazar and Kunduz. He attacked convcys "on highways and roads."

What Radio Kabul does not say is that Zabiullah, under his true name of Abdul Qader, was betrayed by the Mujahidin in the pay of the Soviet-Afghan secret services. And that he died 14 December in his jeep from a mine while returning from a raid near Mazar-e Sharif with eight of his comrades. According to professor Burhanuddin Rabbani, the head of his party, the "Jam'iat-e Islami", Zabiullah was the victim of an internal conspiracy. From the rare accounts of western travelers, it is known that the young leader had worked for more than 1 year to reinstall his rear base in the south of the Balkh province after having ceded a part of his territory to the rival "Harakat" resistance. This redeployment became necessary after the terrible punitive operation launched against his groups in the spring of 1983 following the kidnapping at Mazar-e Sharif of sixteen Soviet civilian advisers. The Russians had bombarded Zabiullah's positions before discovering the hideout where the Soviet advisers were kept. A detachment brought in by helicopter had encircled the area . The Mujahidin had executed their hostages before they themselves were killed in turn by the Red Army soldiers.

As attested by "Ma'sud symbol", the death of "Zabi" is a grave setback for the resistance and above all for the "Jam'iat-e-Islami", the best organized resistance party. At the end of the fifth year of a particularly destructive war, it is also a warning to the Mujahidin, and the civilian population, which

continues, despite its sufferings, to support them. It is a warning, first of all, because it confirms the growing successes of the Khad--the Afghan KGB which under Andropov became one of the principal instruments of the anti-guerrilla struggle and the winning over of tribes to the Kabul authorities. Further, because it exposes the fragility of unity among the resistance, which is exploited by their enemies. And, finally, because it underscores the scarcity of great resistance leaders.

9772

CSO: 4619/35

INDIA

RESPONSIBILITY FOR NUCLEAR ARMING OF PAKISTAN ASSESSED

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 27 Feb 85 p 4

[Editorial]

[Text] When Pakistan acquires nuclear weapons capability--there is no if about it because all the indicators point inexorably to the creation of a nuclear weapon--several countries would have contributed to it. The Netherlands for being duped into taking in a Pakistani nuclear spy who fled with the secrets for the centrifugal method of uranium separation; the Swiss for supplying the equipment for pumping the gas in and out of the centrifuge; Canada for the machinery to spin the centrifuge at the desired speed and China for the design of nuclear warheads. All this has happened under the umbrella vigilance of the US which has, while paying lip service to nuclear non-proliferation, done precious little to stop its minions in Islamabad from pursuing a dream of having the bomb even, as the late Zulfikar Ali Bhutto put it, if Pakistanis had to eat grass for a thousand years. Without having to undergo any such rigour, thanks to the massive military and economic aid given by the US over the past six years, Pakistan is now on the verge of seeing the fruition of its dream. Reports indicate that the time is not far. The Israelis have computed that by 1986 Pakistan would be able to make 10 bombs equal in yield to those dropped over Hiroshima and Nagasaki by the US at the fag-end of World War II. Canadian police are believed to have unearthed records to show resemblance between the Pakistani nuclear programme and the US Manhattan Project which brought forth the first operational atomic bomb.

In the light of all this the revelation that the US has been soft on persons who have been caught red-handed for trying to acquire, on behalf of Pakistan, strategic equipment required mainly for the creation of a nuclear bomb is merely corroborative of the two-faced policy followed by Washington in this vital area. The offer of a nuclear umbrella to Pakistan made some time ago was more by way of making a gesture for public consumption than trying to stop Islamabad from pursuing its adventurist course. Pakistan has laid out a sophisticated network of agents in various countries to buy up equipment and despatch it home. If even in the face of evidence linking these agents to the Pakistan programme of nuclear weapons development the Governments of these countries treat their offences lightly, the conclusion is inescapable that there is an indirect nexus between Pakistan nuclear policy

and western strategic aims in this part of the world. The main concern is to ensure that the evidence does not lead directly to their own doorstep which is why the US moved to stop the export of nuclear triggers by Pakistani agents because such equipment is made only by US firms in the west.

As far as India is concerned, Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's statement that this country would have to review its policy if Pakistan made the bomb and created a strategic imbalance in the region indicates the depth of its predicament. Clearly we are being pushed to the wall and the Government cannot but be concerned at the failure of Pakistan's friends to dissuade it from a course of action that will only add to the prevailing instability in the region. A bomb, irrespective of whether it is tested or not, will unleash a chain reaction of political events, a preview of which is already before us in the developments in Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir.

CSO: 5250/0002

IRAN

U.S. 'CLAIMS' ON OPIUM CULTIVATION IN IRAN DENIED

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 18 Feb 85 p 17

[Text] The U.S. state department called Iran one of the eight largest opium producing countries in a report and asked Reagan to stop U.S. aid to those countries which do not control opium cultivation, among them Iran.

The report of the Reagan administration is published at a time when the Islamic Republic of Iran was praised at a recent session of the international police--Interpol--in Luxembourg, for its innovation of new methods in the campaign against death merchants. In this session, which was held during the months of September and October, with the participation of 141 nations, our chief of police's speech about the experiences of the Islamic Republic of Iran's government in the anti-narcotics smugglers campaign was translated into all major languages. The U.S. representative to the conference strongly protested this speech which contained new effective methods in the anti-narcotic smuggling campaign.

International news agencies have repeatedly published reports about marijuana being the most profitable product in America after corn. Last year alone, over 16 billion dollars profit has filled the pockets of the mafia and death merchants in America from the cultivation of marijuana. In fact, the great satan is looking more disappointed than ever at the frontiers which once assumed passage of thousands of tons of narcotics, the inauspicious triangle of Thailand, Burma and Laos which is called the Golden triangle. With plots against the Islamic Republic's rule they talk about cutting off aid whose real essence is unknown and obscure. In reality the politicians of Reagan's administration are using an old propaganda method of Goebells, Hitler's propaganda minister, to campaign against the Islamic Republic of Iran which has taken steps to eradicate the international chain of narcotic smugglers. Goebells methods during World War II propaganda was to present a few lies, one, not necessarily the most important one, was inducted into the thoughts and minds of the public. To mention the two subjects about Iran, opium cultivation and cutting off aid, is one of the common methods of propaganda now used by Reagan's politicians.

The claim of giving aid and cutting off the vain aid from America is not a new accusation made by the propaganda spreading societies affiliated with Zionism. The reason why the U.S. repeats its story of "financial aid" is to strengthen the new accusation of opium cultivation in Iran [as published]. Definitely in the future, groups affiliated with Zionism, by preparing supposedly documentary television films, radio reports, publishing articles along with figures and statistics, and presenting the history of opium cultivation in Iran, will propagate the new imperialist accusation on an expanded level.

The writers of this report in another section of the report have requested that Reagan, contrary to the great increase of narcotic production in Bolivia and Peru, especially of cocaine, does not discontinue U.S. aid to these countries. A ridiculous reason for this request has been set forth: The U.S. aid must be continued since it is possible that this aid will be used to help eradicate addiction in these countries!

9815
CSO: 4640/419

IRAN

SEVENTEEN INTERNATIONAL SMUGGLERS ARRESTED

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 17 Feb 85 p 19

/Text/ Members of five narcotics distribution bands were arrested in Shiraz and confessed to the distribution of 1,020 kilograms of heroin within a period of seven years.

Regarding this matter, the Public Relations Office of the Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Committee announced: After nearly two months of careful observation and pursuit by the guardians of the Islamic Revolution Committee of the Province of Fars, members of five large and dangerous international narcotics distribution bands were duly identified in various parts of Shiraz and arrested. In these operations which were carried out on 15/11/1363 /4 February 1985/, 17 international smugglers were arrested and all confessed to distributing more than 1,020 kilograms of heroin. Two side-arms, some cartridges, a Russian .38 revolver, a few pornographic videos and a sum of 50,526,000 rials in cash were discovered on these individuals and were all confiscated.

From early 1356-57 /1977-79/ this international band carried out its anti-Islamic and nonhumanitarian activities on an extensive basis.

Some of these individuals were carrying out their ungodly activities under the cover of such professions like automechanic, auto-body repairman, driver, mason, car dealer, ice-cream vendor and so forth.

They have confessed to distributing narcotics in Sistan va Baluchestan Province, and other areas such as Kerman, Yazd, Kahnuj, Shiraz, Marvdasht, Tehran, Karaj and Varamin.

One of the accused was sentenced to death in absentia by the office of the Prosecutor of the Islamic Revolution Army. Another of the arrested smugglers offered a bribe of five million tomans to one of the guardians of the committee not to pass a death sentence on him.

12719
CSO: 4640/430

IRAN

KHOMEYNI: ALL CORRUPTIONS RESULT OF CONCEIT

Tehran SOBH-E AZADEGAN in Persian 4 Feb 85 p 2

[Text] The president, members of the Assembly of Experts, and Friday imams from throughout the country, along with guests participating in the 3rd conference on Islamic thought and the ceremonies honoring the blessed 10 days of Fajr, met with Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

In this meeting, first, Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, the president, as a representative of those present, expressed his joy and pleasure at the visit to the imam of the people and said:

These are unforgettable days for our nation, although such is true of every day in the course of this revolution and all the success which is related to your beloved and blessed being, directly or indirectly. These days remind us of your arrival in the country and the building of the future history of this country, a strong future, and hearts relying on God and full of faith which are tied to your unmatched decisiveness, your strong hand, and most of all, your exceptional personality, you, our beloved and revered imam. The president added:

Six years after those exciting and eventful days, the Islamic revolution has expanded and gained stability according to expectations. Today, the Islamic world pays attention to our revolution and our leader.

He added: Although in the course of these six years the oppressive propaganda organizations have launched the greatest attacks on our Islamic Republic, our combative and brave nation, thank God, as God Almighty has promised, falsehood has been unable to influence world public opinion in actuality. The revolution today has not only a good name but a better name, because it has showed that it is able to guide, to direct, to take the initiative and to administer the country and is always able to offer hope to the Muslims of the world. It is appropriate and we are eager to hear Your Excellency's advice,

you who have always been the guide and helping hand to our nation and the officials of our country. Today, as well, which is a blessed, unforgettable anniversary, we would like to benefit from your advice.

Then, Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the oppressed people of the world, made an important speech, which follows.

In the name of God the compassionate and the merciful.

I [thank] the gentlemen who have troubled themselves to come here, both the gentlemen of the Assembly of Experts and our dear guests, during these 10 days. I hope that God Almighty will guide us all and will [take] us along the path He chooses. You all know the ailments. You know what Islam is suffering today, which is caused by the organizations of the great powers and those dependent on them.

The gentlemen who have come from abroad must note whether the propaganda abroad against the Islamic Republic and, in fact against Islam, can be related to Iran, the people of Iran, the government of Iran, or the clerics of Iran.

If such is so, advise us, and if not, the gentlemen have a religious obligation to report on the issues as they are whenever they are with groups in their own countries.

Those who raise these issues do not have Iran in mind. They are afraid that Islam itself will expand, as it is, spread to all Islamic countries, and cast its rays over all the oppressed people in the world. This is what they are afraid of. Therefore, they are afraid of Islam. In fact, they only attack Islam. Instead of saying such is Islam, they say such is Iran. However, the fact of the matter is that they do not want Islam. If the Islamic Republic were a democratic republic, they would have no objection. But it is an Islamic Republic, and Islamic instructions would not allow plundering and coercion, as we believe. The Koran relates the story of Adam, which is a cryptic story but very instructive, and which gives us certain instructions that, if practiced by human beings, would resolve all problems. Before He creates Adam, He tells the angels what He wants to do. The angels think about their piety and the corruption of human beings, so they ask: Why do you want to create such a group to engage in corruption and sin on earth? We worship You.

They look at themselves in their piety and at man in corruption. They look at their good qualities and man's bad qualities. God Almighty tells them: You do not understand. You only see yourselves. You are conceited and do not see the noble qualities of man. Then, He ends the story, teaching Adam the names, which

are, in fact, the names of God. Then He says: Offer what you have. They realize that they are helpless. Well, they retreat. After creating Adam, He instructs them to prostrate to him. All the angels of God do so but Satan.

The point that Satan does not do so is that he says: I was created from fire and he was created from earth; he is lower than I.

I am higher than him. This is also conceited. He does not prostrate himself on the ground and he is rejected. Then he threatens God, and after being frightened, he asks for a respite.

After receiving a respite and being reassured, he threatens God with: I swear by Your grandeur and the name that You provoked me with that I will not allow most of them to pay attention to You. I will come through their hands; I will come through their offspring; I will come from the right; I will come from the north; and I "will prevent most of them from being grateful" [Arabic].

God answers: Hence, we realize that conceit is a legacy of Satan. This has been the case from the beginning of the world. When he tempts man, he deceives him by saying: They want to jail you here; if you listen to me, you will have most of these. And man accepts something else from him. This is a general instruction which must be a lesson to us since the creation of Adam. You must know that Satan's legacy is conceit. All the corruption in the world, whether from individuals or governments, and all corruption in the society stems from this legacy of Satan. All corruption that appears in the world is due to the sickness of conceit. Whether one is sitting in the corner of his home engaged in worshipping God, once he is conceited, he has the legacy of Satan, or when a person is in the society and in touch with the people, if he engages in corruption, this poison too is due to selfishness and conceit. In the governments ruling the world, from the establishment of governments in the world, every corruption to date is the result of this characteristic. Illnesses are not cured unless this Satanic characteristic is eliminated. A person who wants to cure himself must destroy this characteristic, must suffer hardship and not consider himself to be great. He must not say that he is a learned man, that he is pious, as the angels said. He must not say that he is wealthy. He must not say that he is virtuous, that he is a mystic, that he is a monotheist. In each one of these, even the exalted knowledge of philosophy or mysticism, once there is this characteristic, there is a veil. Knowledge is the greatest of veils [in Arabic]. If anyone wants to cure himself, he must pay attention to this characteristic. It is very difficult to fight this characteristic. If a person wants to be cleansed, he cannot do so through knowledge. Knowledge does not purge human beings.

Knowledge sometimes sends human beings to hell. Sometimes knowledge of monotheism sends human beings to hell. Sometimes mystic knowledge sends human beings to hell. Sometimes knowledge of religious jurisprudence sends human beings to hell. Sometimes knowledge of morality sends human beings to hell.

Knowledge does not do it. Reform is required. Purify yourself [Arabic]. Purification takes precedence over everything. A theological student who studies in a theological school requires purification along with his studies. A Friday imam who wants to guide the people must reform, or purify the people in order to be able to guide them.

A government which wants to make people do good deeds must reform itself. A mystic who wants to call the people to divine knowledge will not be able to do so unless he purifies himself. A philosopher who wants to teach monotheism to the people will not be able to do so as long as he possesses this Satanic characteristic. In other words, the mouth belongs to Satan but speaks of monotheism, and the heart is that of Satan which has received God, learned religious jurisprudence, and taught it. As long as this characteristic exists, it will fail. Who is responsible for those who want to purify themselves or reform the society? The learned and the scholars. It is the responsibility of the tinkers, the Friday imams, the instructors, and the scholars of all lands. But the person who has assumed the garb of a teacher, a professor, an instructor, a religious jurist, a scholar, and the like, if he wants to reform the society, must begin with himself and then it is his duty to reform the society. A person who is corrupt himself is incapable of expressing his words in a way that would reform the people. They would have no influence. Words are effective when they come out of a pure and refined heart. If they come from an impure heart, from a Satanic heart, through a Satanic mouth, they can have no effect on the hearts of the people. If his heart is merciful and divine and pays attention to God, asks God for everything, and considers God to be in control of everything, he will be able to reform the people. This is the duty of the scholars of the lands wherever they are and the instructors and experts wherever they are. This duty is theirs first; but all the people have a duty as well. However, they have placed themselves in this predicament. If you want to purify the society so that when this society mentions Islam somewhere in the world, there would be no opposition to it, you must purify them and familiarize them with the issues. I wish the gentlemen who have come from abroad who have been in Iran for a while would go to the fronts and see our young people and see the crimes that have been committed against this Islamic nation. I wish you would go to the prisons and see the prisoners they hold, too, to see what the situation is like. Then you would go back to your own country and [report] the issues as they are. We do not expect you to say anything which is not true.

What we expect is that it is not enough for the gentlemen who have come here to assemble here, talk, make a resolution and have that be the end; then have everyone return to where he came from and continue what he was doing. If the Friday imams gather in one place or the Friday imams abroad want to gather somewhere, there should not be merely a few speeches, some talks, good things to say, a resolution condemning someone or guiding someone, and then closing up and going home. This will bring failure. A person who wants to reform a society, a nation, or a small group of people must follow up the issues. When there is a gathering of thinkers here, a gathering of guests, a gathering of the honorable Friday imams of the country and foreign countries, and if they have a plan about what to do when they go back, if you issue a hundred communiqus and a hundred speeches and condemn a hundred people without following them up, that will be the end of it. You have talked and troubled yourselves, but have gained no results. But if each of you follow up the issue wherever you are and tell the people of the corruption that you may see, the corruption that the great powers are imposing on humanity, tell the people what the parasites of the great powers are doing to Muslims, tell the people of what you saw in Iran, tell them both the bad and the good, so that they would wake up; [tell them] that the Iranian people did not go to sleep one night and wake up the next morning [and find a revolution], that the religious scholars of the Iranian nation labored for years, labored in the midst of strangulation, in the midst of being beaten in prisons, they labored and labored and told the people. They told the people of the crimes. Wherever they went, they told them. And the people became aware; and once they become aware, of course, the people want the good. It is the nature of people to want good when they see it. Tell the people of the good and the evil so that their nature will flee from evil and pay attention to good. It should not be only that you come there, speak, listen to cheers, and then close up and go to sleep in your houses. No, this will not do. This makes it worse, because your enemies will realize that nothing is happening, it is all talk. There is no action, there is only talk. There is a resolution and no action. Following a resolution, action is necessary. The same way that it occurred in Iran and they acted in Iran. They had their young people killed; they sacrificed themselves, and they are still doing so. Go to the mosques and see these strongholds. The strongholds are the mosques. These strongholds are the centers of mysticism, they are the centers of monotheism. In these mosques, they worship that way at night and sacrifice themselves during the day.

It is because work has been done on this population for a long time, for perhaps 20 years. The religious scholars of the country have worked. The virtuous people have worked. They woke them up and changed them.

If it were not for them [we would not have been able to retrieve] these young people whom they had taken away from us, away from Islam, and had taken them to the centers of debauchery. If not for this movement which occurred, this Islamic movement and Islamic revolution in Iran, God knows what they intended to do. What exists in Iran exists everywhere. We witness it in Iran and you witness it in your own countries. See what is happening to the Islamic injunctions there and what is happening here. They always attack Iran; every radio network you turn on attacks Iran, speaks of strangulation in Iran, of Iran's crimes in the Iranian prisons, of torture in Iran, and of summary executions. Well, you take a look, make investigations abroad. Now, you have come here and the doors are open to investigation. Go and see. You witness the streets and the bazaars. Do you see anyone threatening or bothering the people in the streets and bazaars? In the Friday prayer that you attended, was anyone standing there with a gun, threatening the people and forcing them to attend Friday prayers? Well, this is what we are told. Outside Iran, you see corruption in your own countries, where there is much of it. You must realize that they are afraid here that corruption might return in place of Islam.

They want to create an obstacle to stop this wave which has appeared, to stop Iran's voice from reaching other countries. This is also a mistake that they commit. The louder these bugles become, the stronger Iran becomes. The more they accuse Iran of corruption, of dictatorship, of fascism and the like, and of having a hand in every terrorist act that occurs in the world, the more they strengthen Iran. When the nations see that the United States places barricades around the White House lest Iran should go and bomb it, the people realize the power of Iran. They realize how powerful Iran is. They lie. Iran is against all such issues. Iran has the proof. We advance with the Koran, with "Nahj ol-Balagheh." We do not need to kill those who oppose us. They are not engaged in terrorism. They are now engaged in terrorism in Iran. But they cannot do it. Suppose they kill a grocer. This is blind terrorism by those who [say they] oppose terrorism. They are the center of terrorism. The United States, which speaks so much about humanitarianism and whose president [professes to be] such a humanitarian, has set the world on fire. [They say] the United States, which is destroying humanity, is humanitarian, but not Islam and Islamic Iran.

Brothers, when you go out, speak about the issues. Do not sit at home and let them attack you. You attack and they will retreat. Do not sit at home fearing that something might happen. Well, this was the situation in Iran, and the power of Iran was greater than that of most of these countries. But in Iran, the religious scholars worked, awakened the people, told the people of what was to be done, told the people of Islam and the people are Muslims and by nature want Islam.

You tell the people about Islam. In regards to Islamic injunctions, do not deal merely with prayers and fasting. These must also be told, but they are not the only Islamic injunctions. Why do you not recite Sureh Bara'at? Why do you not read the Qattal verses? You keep reciting the verses on mercy. The Qattal verses are also on mercy, because they are intended to reform the people. A person sometimes cannot be reformed. A disease is sometimes not cured unless it is cauterized. In the society, those who are corrupt should be discarded. This is mercy. But some of the gentlemen think that mercy is to give them a chance to kill the people--Is this mercy?--or mercy is to let them out of prisons to kill the people.

Act in accordance with the Koran. The Koran acts with brotherhood towards those who are Muslims and believers and those who have faith in God and instructs the killing of those who are the opposite. Beat them, jail them, treat the infidels with violence [Arabic]. You just take one aspect of it and you are defeated. If we accept one aspect of Islam, the aspect that you call mercy [as published]. I consider all aspects of it to be merciful, but you think the aspect is mercy when we set free the thieves, set free the corrupt, and set free the murderers.

Give up such mercy that you practice. This is not mercy. This is against God; it is in opposition to God. You gentlemen must speak of the issues when you go back to your countries. Tell of the issues that God has instructed. Say: Treat the infidels with violence; have mercy among yourselves [Arabic]. You must explain to the people what it means, what we must do with them, those who have invaded all Islamic countries and are destroying everything in the Islamic countries. On the one hand, their court clerics engage in propaganda and corruption, speak against Islam, and cause disunity among Muslims, and on the other hand, they have set out against people's lives, to take everything from them. Can we sit in some corner and watch? Are we spectators? [Do we say,] What does it have to do with us? Do we just go on and perform our prayers and fast, that is all? Is this our duty? Was the Commander of the Faithful like this? If the Sire of the Martyrs had thought this way, he would not have gone to Karbala with a small group of people. He did not think this way. This false idea of ours was not in his mind. If the Commander of the Faithful had hesitated, drawn his sword against the person who committed a sin, killed 700 people at once, to the last person who rebelled against him, he would have been against Islam to the end. He killed them to the last person, except for a few who escaped and then returned and engaged in such corruption. Those who escaped engaged in the corruption.

You must know that we keep these corrupt people in our prisons. We do not wish to detain persons who are not corrupt, not even for a moment.

If any one of these were released, they would go and commit murders. They have not been reformed. How long do we have to be asleep? How long should we be simple-minded? Why are you gentlemen simple-minded? When you go back to your country, tell the people, tell the world what the powerful are doing to the world, what they are doing to the oppressed. In Ethiopia, so many poor people are suffering and dying of hunger, yet they throw their wheat in the sea, they spend [their money] on weapons which can destroy the whole world. With this form of humanitarianism, they want to destroy us all. With these assemblies of human rights, they want to eliminate human rights. I hope that God will bless us and awaken us (Amen), that He will awaken us and bring to our attention all aspects of Islam, all its issues and all its sides (Amen). Do not think that Islam is only prayers and fasting. If such were the case, the Prophet would have sat in his mosque and prayed. Why did he labor all his life, engage in wars, and suffer defeat after defeat in order to do the best he could? The Commander of the Faithful was the same and so were others. The pious people were the same. This is how people who are aware are. They would not just sit in the mosque and refuse to bother about such issues. They would not just sit in their homes, not bother anyone, and remain neutral, [saying that] this is not our business. If this were the logic of the prophets, Moses would not have challenged the pharaoh. If this were the logic of the prophets, Abraham would not have attacked them, the Prophet would not have done so. This is not the logic of the prophets. The logic of the prophets is to treat the infidels and those who are against humanity with violence and to show mercy among themselves. That violence is also merciful to them. May God awaken all of us (Amen) and all of you. God willing, He will grant us health and victory (Amen). May God rescue this oppressed humanity from the problems that they are suffering at the hands of the great powers (Amen), and may He protect our religion and the world (Amen).

10,000
CSO: 4640/425

IRAN

ISLAMIC GUIDANCE MINISTER VIEWS DISPLAY OF CONFISCATED ITEMS

Tehran SOBH-E AZADEGAN in Persian 16 Feb 85 p 1

/Text 7 Thursday afternoon, at the invitation of the deputy prime minister and the supervisor of the Foundation of the Oppressed, Dr Khatami, minister of the Islamic Guidance, after viewing the pavilion of the foundation in the fourth "Exhibition of the objects manufactured by the Islamic revolution," paid a visit to the exposition of properties and peerless antique articles which belonged to the families of the satanic regime and were confiscated under the orders of the Islamic judicial authorities and were put at the disposal of the Foundation of the Oppressed.

At the end of his visit, the minister of Islamic guidance in an interview pointed to the exorbitantly high cost of the confiscated articles on display in this exhibition which had been plundered by the Pahlavi dynasty and the families related to it from the wealth of the nation and said: "The existence of these articles is another sign of the depth of the crime of the cruel regime of the shah. These items indicate the reality of the matter, that instead of spending the wealth of the nation on reconstruction of the country or providing the necessary and essential industries for the nation they have spent our wealth on preparing such high cost luxuries. These articles are telling documents that will familiarize the people ever more with the very essence of the former regime."

Regarding the proper use of these articles, the minister of guidance stated: "These items comprise part of the capital of the country which has been put at the disposal of the nation after the victory of the Islamic revolution. They can be put to best use by putting them on public display through the formation of museums or exhibitions." Concerning the measures and courses of action which have been taken toward the fulfillment of the goals in this regard, the minister of Islamic guidance also stated: "Toward this goal certain investigations and studies have been carried out. So far we have been able to assign two buildings of the Sa'adabad palace complex to this matter. Of course, the excessive volume and number of the objects bring about the possibility of studying the creation of exhibitions and museums in other cities for this purpose."

The minister of Islamic guidance went on to add: "With the cooperation of the Foundation of the Oppressed, the study is continuing in order to set up some exhibitions or to locate the museums which can accommodate such numerous and voluminous articles." The minister of Islamic guidance pointed out that the very matter of display of such ornamental articles belonging to the former regime which were solely provided with the intention of feasting, drinking and pleasure seeking, while demonstrating another dimension of the crimes of the cruel regime of the shah also imparts very useful and ethical and moral lessons."

12719

CSO: 4640/454

IRAN

OBJECTIVES, ACTIVITIES OF INFORMATION MINISTRY ELABORATED

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 18 Feb 85 p 2

[Text] Our nation's minister of information in a press, radio and television interview yesterday afternoon, elaborated on the objectives and operation of this ministry and expressed appreciation for the cooperation of the hezbollah people and unknown soldiers of Islam.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Rey-Shahri, the minister of information revealed in this conference that in order to upstage the festivities of the first 10 days of Fajr, the hypocrites had planned to hijack two airplanes and take them to Iraq. Hojjat ol-Eslam Rey-Shahri at the beginning of this interview after elaborating on the necessity of a information system for the country said: "If from the beginning of the revolution's victory a strong information system existed in this country, many plots including the incident of June-July 1981, the prime minister's palace explosion and the assassination of invaluable notables of the revolution would not have occurred."

In regard to the history of the establishment of the ministry of information he said: "From the time of the discovery of the Nowjeh coup d'etat in June-July 1981 we gradually felt the lack of an information organization. Then after the declaration of the armed war of the hypocrites and the explosion in the Islamic Republic Party [headquarters], this concept was seriously pursued and various centers started to work and collect information. Among them were the revolutionary corps, committees, general prosecutor offices and the prime minister's information and research office. The main problem in this regard was lack of centralization. Then the law for the establishment of the ministry of information was approved by the Majlis and the council of guardians."

The minister of information stressed the reliance of the ministry of information on the information of 42 million people and their role in the protection of the Islamic Republic's gains. He then analyzed the operations of the ministry of information from the start of its work up to now and called its activities more than what was expected. He said: "The ministry of information at present has established its organization in all provinces and cities. Based on the laws of the ministry of information, the employees of this ministry must not be members of any party or group."

Arrest of Feda'ian (Majority)

Hojjat ol-Eslam Rey-Shahri then said the following about the arrest of the members of the Feda'ian (Majority) organization: "The dissolved Tudeh Party and the Feda'ian (Majority) before the capture of the leaders of the Tudeh Party, were condemning most of the activities and propaganda operations of the hypocrites, democrats and other groups. Sometimes they used flattery and to gain influence, they revealed information about the hypocrites and called the hypocrite's leadership traitors. But since the east and west has reached a joint position about the Islamic Republic of Iran, these groups have formed a so-called united people's front in order to inflict a blow to the revolution." During the continuation of his talk about the arrest of the Feda'ian (Majority) staff he revealed that: "They had a group called the special group which under the disguise of revolutionary corps and committee, were forging and misusing identification cards to threaten and rob homes. Their purpose from these actions was to defame the humane and revolutionary institutions."

Tactics of the Feda'ian (Majority)

The minister of information continued: "The policies of the Feda'ian mini-groups are mainly the policies of the Tudeh Party. They had the following tactics which were revealed after their arrest:

- 1 - Ideological and political confrontation with the ruling group meaning denying notable Islam and confirming perplexed Islam.
- 2 - Coordination of their propaganda and operations with hypocrites, members of the Tudeh Party, democrats and other mini-groups.
- 3 - To design the slogan of the united people's front with other mini-groups.
- 4 - To struggle to pave the way to end the war without victory and to instigate people to use pressure in this regard and accept the proposed peace of the superpowers.
- 5 - To pave the way for comfort seekers in society.
- 6 - To instill doubt into people's minds in order to separate the Imam from the Muslim nation of Iran.
- 7 - Coordination with the superpowers in respect to confronting the Islamic Republic of Iran.

This mini-group also pursued different phases to achieve long and short-term aims as follows:

- 1 - Training and protection of the cadre inside the country and abroad.
- 2 - Establishing decentralized nucleus and party groups.
- 3 - To prefer quality of the cadre rather than quantity.

4 - To make efforts to regain lost prestige resulting from the interview of the heads of the Tudeh Party which revealed their betrayal before the public.

5 - To make efforts to establish the same so-called united people's front with other mini-groups.

6 - To make efforts to assassinate the personalities and responsible authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran and accusing them of the imposed war.

7 - To propagate baseless rumours about the existence of "strangulation" in Iran, Iran's affiliation with imperialists and the leaders dependence on capitalist domination.

8 - To make efforts to isolate Iran inside and abroad.

9 - To aggravate contrasts and differences.

10 - To create dissatisfaction and aggravation and turn them to strike and social protests against the army, government organizations and public.

11 - To force people to join the united people's front.

12 - To intensify pressure against the sovereignty of the Islamic Republic."

The minister of information in another part of this interview said this about the activities of this ministry: "The ministry of information in its short existence has had some accomplishments. Among them, with information received from the people, it was able to identify six cases of placing bombs and capture the perpetrators. The other accomplishment was preventing two cases of hijacking during this year's celebration of the first ten days of Fajr. Also the administrative core of many of the hypocrites has been discovered and they have been arrested. This very day and yesterday another administrative core of hypocrites with a record of several assassinations in Tabriz was identified and their agents arrested."

In conclusion, he called the extreme helplessness of the hypocrites the cause and motive for recent assassinations and the need of the hypocrites for the financial and political protection of their masters.

9815
CSO: 4640/420

IRAN

BILL ON BORDER CROSSING PENALTIES APPROVED

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 7 Feb 85 p 2

[Excerpts] After the speech of the speaker of the Majlis and reading of statements from the deputies, the Majlis began its session. The first deliberation of the bill on penalties for those helping unauthorized border crossings began, was voted on, and approved.

According to this bill, who ever helps an unauthorized person to cross the border or in some way or another facilitates the unauthorized crossing will be considered guilty and will be sentenced according to the following penalties:

A--In the event that the unauthorized border crosser disturbs the security, the guilty will be sentenced to 2-10 years of prison.

B--In the event that the person crossing the border illegally has been prohibited from existing or entering the country or is a smuggler, the guilty will be sentenced to 2-8 years of imprisonment.

C--In the event that the person crossing the border is guilty of a crime that is under investigation in the jurisdiction of a penal court, the guilty will be sentenced to 2-4 years of prison.

D--In the event that the person crossing the border is under age, the guilty will be sentenced to 3-5 years of prison. The KEYHAN reporter's report indicates that the public session of the Majlis was concluded at 10:35 am and the next session will be held next Wednesday.

9815
CSO: 4640/397

IRAN

SISTAN VA BALUCHESTAN PAYS 400 MILLION TUMANS IN TAXES

Tehran BURS in Persian 30 Jan 85 pp 1, 8

[Text] Taxes collected in Sistan va Baluchestan during the five years since the triumph of the Islamic revolution were around 400 million tumans, around 35 million of which were paid by self-employed workers, the remainder by salaried government workers and a few other sources. The General Treasurer of Sistan va Baluchestan announced this in an interview with the ISLAMIC REPUBLIC NEWS AGENCY. He said: Development and social and welfare services in the Province of Sistan va Baluchestan have cost around 15 billion tumans. He then said that the total development budget allocated for 1364 [21 March 1985 - 20 March 1986] is 18.33 billion tumans. He said: Eight billion tumans of this is credit on the basis of article 18 of the Budget Law of 1364 [21 March 1985 - 20 March 1986] which must be procured by taxes from the provinces of the country. Next year's development credit for the province of Sistan va Baluchestan is 150 million tumans. He added: Tax income for the year 1364 [21 March 1985 - 20 March 1986] is anticipated at around 106.3 billion tumans in the Budget Law, along with 187.6 billion tumans in oil income. Taxes on wages which the government anticipates for the year 1364 [21 March 1985 - 20 March 1986] will be 15.1 billion tumans. The tax share for Sistan va Baluchestan for next year is 65 million tumans, which makes this province rank 21st among the country's provinces in terms of tax collection. For next year, in addition to returning this amount, the government has allocated another 150 million tumans for development in the province of Sistan va Baluchestan, and it will add 693.3 million tomans to all credit. Total development credit for this province in the year 1364 [21 March 1985 - 20 March 1986] will reach a ceiling of 843.3 million tumans.

The General Treasurer of Sistan va Baluchestan noted that the lowest and the highest amounts of taxes collected were 1,000 rials and 80 million rials. He said: After the triumph of the Islamic revolution, most taxes were paid by low-income people such as government employees. For example, in 1362 [21 March 1983 - 20 March 1984] the total taxes collected from workers on fixed salaries were around 59 billion tumans, and 22 billion tumans from other sources and workers. Of this amount, only 2.2 billion tumans were from self-employed workers.

9310
CSO: 4640/414

IRAN

TAX ROLE STRESSED FOR AZARBAIJAN RECONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

Tehran BURS in Persian 4 Feb 85 p 8

[Text] The Governor-General of West Azarbaijan held a press conference in which he stressed the importance of the formation of a special government commission on the Kurdish areas of West Azarbaijan and Kordestan. He said: The prevailing spirit for proposed policy of the Kurdish areas is to honor the regional culture and to make use of the cultural priorities of these areas.

Referring to the membership of the commission and the results of the sessions it has held so far, he said: Following previous discussions in the first session, which included the presentation of reports on the situations in the provinces of West Azarbaijan and Kordestan, in the second session the area's problems were categorized and educational and cultural projects were proposed and approved in 23 articles.

He added: The approved policies and projects will soon be communicated to the groups and organizations, so that they may act on them.

The Governor-General of West Azarbaijan stressed the fact that the Kurds are a devout Muslim people who despise infidelity. He said: Much attention has been given to eliminating deprivation in this area, including raising the level of literacy, allocating larger admission quotas to Kurdish students, training personnel for education and training, training theology students, and creating special native schools. In general, the prevailing spirit in government policy for Kurdish areas is to make use of the cultural and Muslim talents in the Kurdish areas. In answer to another question concerning the manner of legal activities of the Islamic societies, he said: The Islamic societies exist and are respected as a powerful arm of the government of the Islamic republic. They can keep the atmosphere in the offices sound, provided that they operate within a legal and Islamic framework.

The competence of members of the Islamic societies must be affirmed by enforcing the law. It may therefore be said that as long as the law is enforced, truly competent and orthodox people will be active in the Islamic societies.

The Governor-General of West Azarbaijan discussed the importance and the role of the payment of taxes for the implementation of development projects. He

said: The payment of taxes for the establishment of production and service businesses and companies will remove the mass of pressure which has been brought to bear on our country by world imperialism based on the dependence of our country's budget on oil.

He added: With regard to this, those who pay their taxes willingly and with commitment are in a different category than those who evade taxes.

With reference to the payment of around 230 million tumans in taxes in 1362 [21 March 1983 - 20 March 1984] the Governor-General of West Azarbaijan added: Contrasted with these taxes, mostly paid by employees, in the same year around 4.5 billion tumans were spent for development in the area.

9310
CSO: 4640/414

IRAN

SECOND UNIT OF ESFAHAN POWER PLANT BECOMES OPERATIONAL

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 13 Feb 85 p 3

[Text] Esfahan--KEYHAN reporter--On the occasion of the seventh anniversary of the victory of the Islamic revolution, the second unit of the 800 megawatt power plant of Martyr Mohammad Montazeri started operation in the presence of Dr Qafuri-Fard, minister of energy and a few other officials of this ministry.

Based on reports, the operation of this 200 megawatt power plant will increase electricity production in Esfahan Province by 30 percent. According to the same report, 40 billion rials have been allocated for the establishment of the 800 megawatt Esfahan power plant, whose first unit with 200 megawatts of electricity production started operation last September and whose other two units will be operational in the coming year. Its personnel will be trained under the supervision of Tavanir specialists.

This report indicates that one of the advantages of this power plant, built on 2.1 million square meters in the vicinity of the Esfahan refinery and 20 kilometers from this city, is that its fuel will be provided by the mazut of the Esfahan refinery. One of its features is low water consumption due to the cooling tower which is 10 percent of a steam power plant.

The original contractor of the Sefahan 800 megawatt power plant is the Soviet Tekhnokron Export Company, the construction work is done by the Budimex Company of Poland, and work related to the cooling towers is fulfilled by the Transelectro Company of Hungary.

Primary studies for the establishment of the power plant started in 1977 and an agreement was signed in August of the same year between Iran and the USSR; activities resumed after the Islamic revolution in Sep-Oct 1980. It is worth noting that the first unit of this power plant, which started operation last September, is managed for the time being by Iranian personnel.

Based on the same report, at the inauguration ceremony of the second unit of the Martyr Mohammad Montazeri power plant, Dr Qafuri-Fard, minister of power, emphasized in a speech the role of specialist brothers in the construction of the power plant and their efforts in reaching self sufficiency and the committments of Tavanir specialists in this regard. He expressed hope of attaining independence in technical fields like in political fields. He said: "Certainly this does not imply that we close our country's doors but it is intended that our fundamental industrial progress be accomplished with our own hands."

The minister of energy expressed his appreciation for the ministry of energy's small gift to the martyr nutrient nation on the occasion of the seventh anniversary of the victory of the Islamic revolution. He expressed hope that the other 2 units of this power plant, based on anticipated plans, will be ready for operation next year.

9815
CSO: 4640/397

IRAN

EXPOSITION DISPLAYS INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS OF REVOLUTION

Tehran SOBH-E AZADEGAN in Persian 4 Feb 85 p 15

[Text] This exhibition displays such equipment as a complete camera and an electronic telephone with computer controls built by Iranian inventors.

Simultaneous with the 4th exhibition of the products of the revolution, an exhibition called the 11th exhibition of inventions and innovations was held in Room 16 of the permanent exhibition location.

In this exhibition, which has been held through the efforts of the Iranian organization for scientific and industrial research, the university crusade, and the society of inventors and innovators, some of the tireless efforts of the craftsmen and inventors of our country, who have been able to rise up against the enemies of the revolution in industrial and economic areas, are presented. The Iranian organization for scientific and industrial research has exhibited more than 150 designs prepared and reconstructed by Iranian inventors and innovators. Of those participating in the exhibition, 60 percent were participating for the first time. The society of inventors and innovators was able to exhibit some of the significant work of the inventors and innovators of our country.

The pavillion for the Iranian organization for scientific and industrial research is made up of various sections, including glass blowing, electricity and electronics, engineering, medicine, agriculture, natural resources, and chemistry. Each of these sections in turn has presented certain projects. Among the projects which are exhibited in the electronics section is an electronic telephone center with computer controls, designed fully in Iran, which can be used in large office buildings as a central unit and in the cities as a city telephone center. In this project, the most advanced techniques, that is, involving the changing of sound to numbers and numbers to sound, have been used, which are controlled by a computer.

A fully automatic plastic injection machine is another of the innovative projects displayed at this exhibition. This machine, which can be manually, semi-automatically, or fully-automatically operated, was completely designed and built by two brothers, 'Alireza and 'Abbas Kalateh-Arabi. It is capable of injecting up to 150 grams of plastic at various times. This project, which is very admirable, can be used in various sections of the plastics manufacturing industry.

Various designs for pesticide equipment are among other innovations displayed at the exhibition, which have been approved technically by the Karaj agricultural engineering division and can be used in homes, workshops, factories, orchards and farms. The designer of this equipment calls it a step toward agricultural and industrial self-sufficiency and severance of dependence. He asked the authorities to remove the existing obstacles to creations and innovations so that the creative and innovative forces will be able to work actively to sever dependence.

Among the other projects displayed in the 11th exhibition of inventions and innovations is a complete photography unit which is able to take electronic photographs in 5 minutes. According to the designer of this unit, this project is completely innovative and unprecedented. In this project, ordinary paper and chemicals are used and there is no need for the Polaroid paper which is used in instant photography. This project, which receives the very enthusiastic response of the visitors, is also approved by the organization for scientific and industrial research.

In this exhibition, dozens of other projects in various areas, including laboratory equipment, industrial gear boxes, rice blanchers, veterinary equipment, and hydrolic cylinders, were displayed. Each of these shows the strong steps taken towards industrial and economic independence. On the other hand, they show that the inventors and creative minds in our country are working hard alongside the victorious combatants of the Islamic forces on the military fronts in order to move victoriously in the industrial sectors as well and to provide for some of the urgent needs of our country.

10,000
CSO: 4640/424

IRAN

MINISTER INVITES INVESTMENT IN INDUSTRIAL EXPOSITION

Tehran SOBH-E AZADEGAN in Persian 19 Feb 85 p 2

/Text/ The first permanent exposition of self-sufficient services was inaugurated yesterday morning in Tehran simultaneous with the "anniversary of the bloody uprising" of the people of Tabriz in a ceremony in the presence of the ministers of industries and housing and urban development, along with the deputy ministers of the Ministry of Industry and the heads of some industrial production plants.

During the opening ceremonies of this exposition, which has been set up by the Ministry of Industries, the minister of industries in a statement pointed to the necessity and the importance of the formation of this exposition and said: "This is one of the expositions which has been formed in the years after the victory of the Islamic revolution toward industrial self-sufficiency. In this exposition many imported industrial products, machinery and raw materials necessary for the operation of the country's various industries are put on display. Exposition visitors are urged to make an effort to produce these raw materials or manufacture similar industrial products domestically. All along the way we will be ready to cooperate with such individuals." Engineer Shafei, while pointing to the rich Islamic culture which is opposed to any kind of domination by the infidels over Muslims, went on to add: "Islam has clearly indicated economic, social, cultural and political policies for Muslims. It has not provided a way for the domination of the infidels over Muslims. In the past our country has been invaded in every imaginable aspect by the foreigners. After the revolution, many of the dependencies have been severed, so much so that our country has rid itself of all political dependencies. In social and cultural fields some important steps also have been taken and many of our dependencies severed. However, the roots of dependencies in the economic field are much deeper. One cannot get rid of all of these dependencies in a matter of a few years, since the foundation of the economy is dependent on science and technology, which in turn requires many years of struggle and effort. In comparison to industrial countries, our country is lagging behind, which is an inheritance left us by the cruel regime of the shah. This should be the mission of the technicians and the experts who should make an effort toward reaching independence." He went on to point out the means and methods which

can be used for industries and research to grow and stated: "With close cooperation between the universities and the nation's industries, we could get very close to this goal. On the other hand, the formation of self-sufficient centers and their expansion would be very beneficial toward achieving this goal."

The minister of industries emphasized that the allocation of .002(two thousandths) of the revenues from the sale of the products of factories toward investment in research for the expansion of related activities will be a very effective means. At the end he asked that all the individuals who find themselves capable of producing raw materials or manufacturing pieces of machinery, by visiting this exposition should present their capability toward the expansion of the nation's industry. According to the same report, after hearing the statements of the minister of industries, the visitors saw the various exhibits of the exposition. This exposition has been formed with a view to a rapid self-sufficiency movement in order to pinpoint the ways and means and the blind spots of our dependencies in the production of raw materials and much used machinery parts. In other words, on one hand, the objective of the exposition is to pinpoint the problems and our industrial dependencies, on the other hand, it provides sufficient information for experts and innovators of the country to solve this problem. Collecting samples for the exposition started a year ago. It was arranged that all the factories or industrial plants which were in need of importing merchandise from abroad would deliver one sample of each item of the imported goods or raw material to the exposition. Until now nearly 400 such factories have taken part in this movement. At the present time about 11,000 imported items have been collected. On each one of these items there is a card which contains the name, the use and the method of application, the yearly needed quantity, the name of the country or the foreign agent who sells the items, and finally the name of the Iranian consumer factory. Other related information such as brochures and catalogs are available for interested individuals at the information desk. There are 3,500 chemical samples, 3,700 metal products, 980 pieces of electrical equipment other than ones with composite circuits. Brochures, booklets and pamphlets which solely focus on industry and the industrial economy, provide interested visitors with necessary information. The section which is in charge of published information is equipped with a mini-computer, which is in the process of being installed and will be put into operation very soon.

In this exposition the matter of familiarization with some of unidentified materials which had been used or sold by producers under a code name also have been dealt with. The first publication of this exposition, called "Characteristics of Imported Chemical Products Available at the Exposition," which contained the code name, the name of the chemical samples, their scientific name,

the chemical formulas, their apparent and industrial properties and other related information was recently published. Research and studies to identify other items is continuing. Since the auditoriums of the exposition became available several specialized seminars such as the seminar on industrial sewers or the one on training courses for casting or molding have been held by the nation's self-sufficient centers. Such activities will continue in the future.

This exposition, which is located at the intersection of Modarres and Mirdamad Avenues, became available for operation after great effort with about 2,350 square meters of usable space. The exposition is open during office hours.

12719

CSO: 4640/454

IRAN

BANK OFFICIAL EXPLAINS EFFORTS TO CONTROL CASH FLOW

Tehran SOBH-E AZADEGAN in Persian 7 Feb 85 p 23

[Interview with Central Bank Director General Dr Mohsen Nurbakhsh by domestic and foreign reporters on 6 Feb 85; place not specified]

[Text] In an interview with domestic and foreign reporters yesterday morning, Dr Mohsen Nurbakhsh, the director general of the Central Bank of the Islamic Republic of Iran, explained the economic and financial situation of the country. First, presenting statistics and figures of the important economic indexes, he explained the economic situation of the country and said: Based on calculations by the Central Bank, gross domestic fixed investments increased from 9.9 percent growth during the period 21 March 1982-20 March 1983 to 39 percent the following year. Also, gross domestic production showed positive growth from 15.1 percent during the 1982-83 period to 13.5 percent the following year. He said: A major part of this growth in domestic production has been without oil, and essentially the sectors of industry, housing and commerce make up the main figures of this growth. In regards to the control of cash flow, which is one of the major impediments to inflation, the director general of the Central Bank said: The growth in cash flow during the 1982-83 was 24.2 percent and the following year it was 17.4 percent. In the first eight months of this year, this figure was 1.2 percent, which indicates a rapid decline in the growth of cash flow.

He also added: The inflation rate during the 1982-83 year was 19.2 percent and the following year it was 17.7 percent. In the past nine months, this figure has reached 11.9 percent and we have witnessed a decline in the growth of the inflation rate. Then, in a brief summation of the statistics presented, the director general of the Central Bank of the Islamic Republic said:

The statistics and figures show that with the beginning of the seventh year of the victory of the Islamic revolution, while in

the past five years the Islamic Republic has been directly involved in the imposed war, the economy of the country has adjusted very well to the war conditions. In comparison with those countries that have similar conditions, with the help of the people, the Islamic Republic of Iran has achieved significant success in maintaining and continuing production activities, in reducing the prices of goods, and generally in managing the economy of the country under the special conditions which we face. He stressed the continuation of economic progress even if the war continues.

Then, concerning the currency policies of the country, Dr Nurbakhsh said: On the whole, our policies regarding currency issues is closely tied to foreign trade. Our policy is to preserve the balance of payments. In order to achieve this goal, various mechanisms are taken into consideration. He added: We believe that, considering the purchasing power and the market that we have, our foreign trade should be unilateral [as published]. Therefore, we purchase from countries that mutually purchase from us. He also said: In the past few months, no change has been made in the policies for the opening of credit for the purpose of importing goods and we have acted in accordance with the general policy, which is to balance payments. He explained: In regards to currency credits, we have had no restrictions and in regards to the currency reserves as well, we are not faced with any decrease. Then, concerning the implementation of the Islamic banking system, Dr Nurbakhsh said: The period 21 March 1984-20 March 85 is the year to change the old system to the new one. In the course of this period, not only have deposits not decreased, but in certain cases, we have had increased deposits in the banks. The director general of the Central Bank then referred to the level of cash flow in our country and said: Precautions have been implemented to control this level, which mainly include the control of government expenditures, gold reserves and its general sale as well as the control of banking credits.

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CSO: 4640/424

IRAN

HEAVY INDUSTRY MINISTRY ANNOUNCES PRIVATE SECTOR INVESTMENT

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 27 Feb 85 p 17

Text Information regarding the activities of the private sector in the heavy industries of the country was published by the Ministry of Heavy Industries.

According to KEYHAN's economic correspondent, the public relations office of the Ministry of Heavy Industries while publishing this report also announced that the above-mentioned statement has been prepared in correspondence to the 22 Bahman 1361/11 February 1985⁷ message of the imam/Khomeyni⁷. The same office also added that proper attention to the type and the nature of the industrial units and the relevant tariffs of the heavy industries, which are usually accompanied by large and voluminous governmental investments, together with appropriate measures taken by this ministry in less than two years for the creation of industrial axes and the issuing of pertinent permits, all point to the correct policy and method of handling the private sector's participation in the industrial activities by the Ministry of Heavy Industries.

A- Private Sector's Share in New Investments

From the beginning of 1362/21 March 1983 - 20 March 1984⁷ until the first of the month of Bahman 1363/21 January 1985⁷ we have issued a total of 4,196 principal agreements with a fixed investment value amounting to 155.8 billion rials. The estimated number of new jobs which will be created would be about 50,000. From this total amount a sum equivalent to 124.4 billion rials has been assigned to the private sector, which comprises 80 percent of the total of new investments in heavy industries. Considering the nature of heavy industries this is a very noticeable figure. The remaining investments have been made by banks, and nationalized and reconstruction crusade organizations.

See Chart A for comparisions:

Description of Chart A

	Number of Principal Agreements	Percent	Fixed Amount Investments (bn rials)	Percent	Median Fixed Investments (bn rials)
Total	4,196	100	155.8	100	37
Private Sector	4,163	99	124.4	80	30
Banks, Reconst. Crusade and Nationalized Organizations	33	1	31.4	20	953

B- Amount of Small Investment Participation in Heavy Industries' Projects

Out of the total principal investments until the first of the month of Bahman 1363/21 January 1985⁷, which was 155.8 billion rials, about 31 percent belonged to rather large investments/fixed capital of more than 500 million rials⁷, and the remaining 69 percent belonged to investments of less than 500 million rials. In other words, 106 billion rials of this category of investments belonged to 4,158 permits issued for principal agreements. The median investment of each principal agreement amounts to 26 million rials. This indicates the participation of small artisans or craftsmen and small-scale investments in setting up industrial units under the direction of the Ministry of Heavy Industries. On the other hand, the policy and efforts of this ministry as regards the execution of large industrial projects, which are of interest to the private sector, is to give priority to the joint-stock companies in order to attract more investors, especially the workers' participation in the purchase of factory bonds so that the possibility for the attraction and participation of small-scale investments in the productive enterprises would become a possibility.

Description of Chart B

	Number of Principal Agreements	Percent	Fixed Amount Investments (bn rials)	Percent	Median Fixed Investments (mil rials)
Grand Total	4,196	100	155.8	100	37
Large Projects (500 mil rls or more)	38	1	48.6	31	1,279
Small Projects	4,158	99	106.2	69	26

C- Situation of Business Permits

From the beginning of 1362 until the first of the month of Bahman 1363/21 January 1985/ a total of 786 business permits have been issued. The fixed investments from these permits amount to about 15 billion rials. Eleven permits of the above stated figure have been issued by the central office in Tehran with a fixed investment of 4.2 billion rials and the remaining permits, with a fixed investment capital of 10.7 billion rials, have been issued by the General Departments of Industries and the representatives of the heavy industries in the provinces.

The median fixed investments in the provinces amounts to 14 billion rials, which indicates the fruition of the efforts of small-scale investments by small businesses toward the creation of small productive units. Seven of the issued business permits, with an investment capital of 2.9 billion rials, have been assigned to the Reconstruction and National Crusades. The remainder of the permits, with an investment capital of 12 billion rials, belongs to the private sector with a median of fixed investment of about 15 billion rials.

D- Comparison of Investment Situation

It should be noted that the amount of fixed investment which has been agreed upon in the field of heavy industries during the first ten months of 1363/21 March 1984 - 20 March 1985/ alone has been 2.6 times more than all the investments in the industrial field /both light and heavy/ of 1356 /21 March 1977 - 20 March 1978/. The following chart illustrates the situation of the principal agreements which have been issued since the beginning of 1356 until the end of the month of Dey 1363 /20 January 1985/. The information and the figures of 1356 up to the end of 1361 /21 March 1982 - 20 March 1983/ reflects general investments in industries and the fixed revolving assets, whereas the figures belonging to the years 1362 and 1363 reflect investments in the heavy industries. As is shown in chart D the number of the principal agreements which have been issued for heavy industry in 1362 shows an increase of over two times and that of 1363 shows an increase of about three times over the total number of principal agreements in 1356. The total investments of 1356 amounted to 35.4 billion rials while in 1362 the amount of investments in heavy industries alone was 6.6 billion rials and that of 1363 was 94 billion rials. It is necessary to point out that the years 1355 and 1356 were the period of the culmination of a blossoming, productive and developing era of the cruel regime of the shah.

These were the years when the highest oil revenues were pouring into the country /even at present day prices/. There was no war going on, nor was there a crisis or a shortage. All the prevalent economic factors were present at their best, while in 1361 and 1362 the situation was completely different.

Because of the political and economic fluctuations, the motivation for participation of the public in the investment field was by far less than the period before the revolution. However, as has been illustrated in chart D, the reception of investment in industries by the people and the success of the government in attracting capital for productive industries has excited notice. Let's face the facts. In what country in the world which is engaged in war would the private sector dare to invest? In what country in the world, where foreign exchange revenues are constantly undergoing fluctuations and long-term investments are just not possible, can we find people who show interest or participate in investments? Aren't these high investment figures by the small and median investors an indication of the interest and the trust of the people toward the government and the fate of the revolution?

Description of Chart D

Year	1356	1357	1358	1359	1360	1361	1362	1363
Number of Investments	857	322	652	1,977	2,709	3,337	hvy ind 1,942	hvy ind 2,254
Amount of Investments (bn rials)	35.4	14.6	29.4	90.4	124	152.7	61.6	94

E- Situation of Production in the Private Sector

A comparison of the total value of production by nongovernmental units according to the collected information and statistics on 101 major production units, which have been productive since 1356, or those which have entered the production stage before 1362, indicates that the total production value of these units in 1362 had an increase of 35 percent and that of 1363 had an increase of 42 percent over 1361. Similarly, an investigation of 63 units of the above-mentioned total units, which have been in the production stage since 1356, shows that the total production value of these units, despite a nine percent drop in 1361 in comparison to 1356 has increased by 33 and 31 percent in the years 1362 and 1363 respectively. In a like fashion, the volume of production of some products have had a dazzling increase in recent years which is indicated as a sample below. The statistics on the production of some products of the heavy industries in the private sector illustrate the fact that despite the limitations on foreign exchange in the field of heavy industries and the small industrial units of private sector, which are not covered by the 'Law of Trusteeship', have had a marked increase in their activities after the revolution in comparison to the period before the revolution.

Description of Chart E

Product Name	Yr 1356	Yr 1361	Yr 1362	Yr 1363
All kinds of Motorcycles	100	134	230	263
Aluminum Sheets	100	131	175	159
Suspension Springs	100	51	64	64
Dampers	100	99	179	174
Concrete Products	100	100	220	351

12719

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IRAN

JAPANESE DELEGATE GIVES VIEWS ON METRO CONSTRUCTION

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 4 Mar 85 p 3

/Text/ Takashi Inouye, head of a five-member delegation of Japanese traffic specialists who came to Iran last week to study the possibility of metro construction in Tehran, in a special interview answered questions put to him by our correspondent regarding the study of a metro project, the monorail, problems of watertable and the traffic situation in Tehran.

First, in answer to the question: "What is the purpose of your trip to Tehran any why do you perform your studies in this regard free of charge?" Takashi Inouye stated: "Technical and economic cooperation with foreign countries is part of Japanese foreign policy. At the present time, since the Japanese fiscal budget is very tight, it is not possible for every ministry to ask for an additional or supplemental budget. The only possible way for a Japanese ministry to obtain a supplemental budget is through cooperation projects with foreign countries, this cooperation can be used by Japan toward world peace. For this reason Japanese experts are sent to other countries to assist them with their technical problems. The study of a metro system for Tehran is one such technical cooperation. In contemplation of this matter we have come to Iran to study this project without charge."

/Question/ How do you assess Tehran's metro system?

/Answer/ For a city like Tehran, with a population of more than eight million, a metro system is necessary. However, the construction of such a system is a very hard job. There is one fundamental point here, and that is how you are going to solve your city's traffic problems until the metro system becomes ready for operation.

Next year our delegation will have discussions with authorities of the Interior Ministry and thereafter, within the next two years it will present its report to the Iranian authorities. In order to complete the construction of the metro project, which will last until the year 2010 and will encompass the greater Tehran area, we will have several discussions with the Metro Company, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Interior and Tehran's Municipality authorities so that through their assistance and cooperation we can complete the project.

Question / Do you think that the Metro system can solve Tehran's traffic problem?

Answer / This is an important question and there are three basic points contained in it. Of course a metro system alone cannot solve Tehran's traffic problems. However, as a principal rule a metro system is necessary for Tehran--without it its traffic problems can never be solved. First, a metro system should be devised in the fashion of a network--a monorail system would not be as effective for this purpose. Second, the metro system should be geared or linked to other means of transport, while the city's present system of transportation services should be given a face-lift along with the new metro system. Third, in order to resolve the traffic problems, the regulations regarding the movement of vehicles through the city should be revamped. In other words, the level of traffic education should be increased a bit so that there would be fewer accidents and chaos.

Question / What are you going to do with subterranean water and sewer systems?

Answer / This will not pose any problem at all. Our specialists will come to Tehran and study the matter. Here I should mention that we have a higher water-table in Tokyo than in Tehran. Nevertheless, we have been able to construct an extensive metro network in that city.

Question / How does Sofretu's study/ a study done by a French delegation on Metro/ appear to you?

Answer / Everything which has been done by Sofretu ought to be changed. The first point is, what is best or most suitable for Tehran. Then on the basis of a proper plan programming could start.

Question / Is Japan able to present Iran with the technology for a metro system?

Answer / Of course we can present your country with this technology, since we have long experience in planning metro systems. A good example would be the Tokyo Metro.

Question / How much would it cost the residents of Tehran to construct a metro system?

Answer / Execution of such a project is very expensive. However, this is an investment which will benefit the people of Iran in the long run. For instance, reduction of noise and pollution are some of the benefits of such a system.

Question / The system of monorail has not yet proven itself in the world; even Japan is not making use of it on a complete basis. How do you recommend it for Iranian cities?

/Answer We will study the possibility of a monorail system after the completion of the present visit. I ought to mention that Japan has many monorail systems. For example, the city of Kitakyushu with a population of over one million has a complete monorail system. Furthermore, we have been very successful in this respect. Therefore, your assumption was no correct in this regard.

/Question Considering the fact that a monorail system has the capacity to displace only 10,000 people in one hour, while a metro system can displace 40,000 people for the same period of time, you think that a monorail system is suitable for the city of Tehran?

/Answer At the present time we have begun our studies on the subject of monorail, too. The figures that you mentioned are correct. However, it is quite possible to increase the capacity of a monorail system.

/Question Do you have any suggestions toward the solution of the problem of Tehran's traffic by improving its present city bus service?

/Answer In my opinion the intercity bus terminal systems are very nice and seem to be an appropriate measure. Notwithstanding, the situation of the intra-city(inner city)bus system needs some improvements. Generally, I should say that if the buses move very slowly in Tehran, their effectiveness and usefulness will be as much decreased. What you have to do is to build special roads for bus traffic only. What you have is not sufficient; on the other hand, the authorities ought to think about a way to reduce the number of vehicles within the city.

/Question What do you think of Tehran's present traffic plan?

/Answer Here I must say that many streets in Tehran are not marked off properly; either the lanes are not separated by dashed or solid lines or there is not adequate pedestrian cross-walk delineation and so forth. Mainly, there are three things you ought to do: 1- Traffic police have to act a bit firmer. 2- Traffic signs have to be corrected and improved where necessary. 3- New roads and city autobahns need to be built and the drivers who use these roads ought to be given some training or traffic education. Due regard to these three points could slightly improve the chaotic traffic situation of Tehran. In my opinion, the present traffic plan is not adequate for Tehran.

/Question With which one of the Iranian officials did you meet?

/Answer We have met and have had discussions with the mayor of Tehran, officials of the Foreign Ministry and the Ministry of Interior, the responsible authorities of the Tehran Metro Company and some members of the Ministry of Energy.

/Question7 You have been to Iran eight times. Tell us about the result of your visits to Tehran or such big cities as Esfahan.

/Answer7 I have visited Iran ten times. I have been to Iran twice before the revolution and eight times after the revolution. Before the revolution I acted in the capacity of a consultant on the network of autobahns with the Iranian government. At the present time, I highly respect the efforts of the government in trying to solve the traffic riddle. At present, we are studying Esfahan's traffic system and the mayor's office has informed us of their interest in having a metro system. When we were in Esfahan last year we noticed that the majority of the population is concentrated within the city and the people have to travel from the inner city to the outer limits in order to get to their workplace; that is to say, the factories and so forth. In my opinion, metro is a nice and suitable means of transport for that city.

In conclusion, he added: A metro system as a basic and primary means of transport is necessary for Tehran. However, under the present circumstances and with regard to economic, technical and other factors, it is not possible to build a metro for Tehran. The only thing Iran can do under the prevailing conditions is to see how it can solve the traffic problem without the existence of a metro system. At all events, we will study and research this matter for 25 months and will present our report in the future with another delegation which is going to visit Iran for the same purpose.

12719
CSO: 4640/452

IRAN

NO AGREEMENT REACHED ON METRO CONSTRUCTION

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 4 Mar 85 p 3

[Text] Mohammad-Nabi Habibi, the mayor of Tehran gave an explanation of the recent trip by a Japanese delegation to our country in an interview with KEYHAN.

He said that Dr Velayati paid a visit to Japan on the heel of this delegation's trip of last year to our country. The delegation made a trip to Iran following the visit of Dr Velayati to Japan this year. The members of this delegation had no mission concerning the study or the execution of any metro-related or other projects. The purpose of this delegation's trip was to discuss bilateral needs and possibilities and also to exchange opinions on the subject of traffic. To this end, during meetings with the deputy ministers' of interior and Tehran's Municipal officials, traffic problems, problems related to the subterranean water level and the watertable of Tehran together with possible solutions to some of these problems were set forth by the members of Iranian delegation. On the other hand, the Japanese delegation gave some explanation regarding the measures which had been taken by the Japanese government in solving the traffic jigsaw puzzles in that country.

The mayor went on to say: In these meetings, only the needs and problems were set forth. It was agreed that in case the need for a Japanese research delegation arises in the future, the responsible authorities of the Islamic Republic would extend an invitation to the delegation to visit Iran. In these meetings no agreements were signed on project execution or research studies.

In conclusion, the mayor of Tehran stated: I have had no official discussion with this delegation. I only attended the meeting along with the deputy minister of the interior. Other meetings of municipal officials with the Japanese delegation were held by the deputy and consultant of transportation, the officials of the Traffic Department and some authorities of the Tehran's Office of Surface Waters.

12719
CSO: 464C/452

IRAN

AGRICULTURAL SERVICES, PRICES ANNOUNCED

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 19 Feb 85 p 3

[Text] In a publication by the Iranian Bureau of Statistics the sale prices of products and the cost of agricultural services in rural areas of the country for the year 1362 /21 March 1983 - 20 March 1984/ were announced.

A study of the results of the contents of this publication indicates that the median sales price of one kilogram of wheat at harvest-time in 1362 in West Azarbaijan Province was 70 rials, while in Fars Province the same amount of wheat cost 25 rials. These two figures respectively show the highest and the lowest price for one kilogram of wheat at the time of harvest for this commodity throughout the nation. In the same year the highest median sales price of one kilogram of potatoes at 50 rials belonged to Gilan and Zanjan provinces while the lowest price for the same amount of potatoes was 28 rials in East Azarbaijan Province. One kilogram of sunflower seeds in West Azarbaijan Province was 223 rials while in Bakhtaran it was 75 rials. These two figures respectively show the highest and lowest price for the same commodity at the time of harvest. Similarly, the median sales price of one kilogram of yellow peas at the time of harvest in 1362 in Semnan Province was 285 rials while in Ilam Province the same amount of peas cost 158 rials.

As regards the cost of tilling one hectare of cultivable land, Gilan Province with 9,350 rials was highest while Bushehr Province with 1,389 rials shows the lowest cost. Meanwhile, the median daily wage of a harvest hand in Tehran Province was 3,425 rials while in Yazd Province the same equivalent job drew as low as 768 rials, which respectively indicate the highest and the lowest wage for this kind of service.

12719
CSO: 4640/431

IRAN

AGRICULTURAL LANDS USE VALID UNTIL RATIFICATION OF REFORM ACT

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 27 Feb 85 p 3

/Text⁷ Hamadan--KEYHAN correspondent: The circular of the Supreme Judicial Council regarding 800,000 hectares of agricultural land occupied and cultivated by farmers in the years 1358 /21 March 1979 - 20 March 1980/, 1359/1980 -81/ and 1360 /1981 -82/ will be valid until the enactment and ratification of new land reform laws by the Islamic parliament.

The Supreme Judicial Council circular stated that the occupying farmers should pay the landowners a share of their profits. In disputed or vague circumstances, a seven-member arbitration board will decide the amount of rent which should be paid to the landowners by the occupying farmers.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Moqtada'i, spokesman and member of the Supreme Judicial Council who travelled as the head of a delegation to the province of Hamadan to investigate judicial problems and issues of the province also talked in an interview with our correspondent about the objective of his Hamadan trip, the recent guiding statements made by the imam of the nation regarding judicial issues, a recent decision made regarding improving or bettering the country's judicial situation and the steps taken by the Supreme Judicial Council to counteract the plots of counterrevolutionary minigroups.

First, concerning the objective and outcome of his trip to Hamadan he stated: "Following the message of the imam in February 1985, which put strong emphasis on the judicial organs to supervise and control the quality of the work of the judges and the affairs of judicial system, the issue was set forth in a meeting of the Supreme Judicial Council and it was decided that each member of the council should make a trip to one of the provinces and closely investigate the problems of the judicial system, local and provincial revolution courts. Thus we have travelled to Hamadan to study the judicial issues. However, after preliminary investigations, fortunately, we have found here, praise to God, excellent coordination exists between the different organs throughout the province. It is a blessing that such a harmonious atmosphere and unity of opinion and action exists between the Friday imam, the governor-general and the judicial

and executive organs of the province. The result of such unity will benefit Islam, the revolution and the oppressed people, which is the very objective of the system of the Islamic Republic. As regards the judicial issues we have had some meetings with all the judicial personnel of the province and shar' magistrates of the revolution courts. In these meetings our brothers set forth their judicial problems including financial shortages, shortages of judges, a lack of adequate personnel and office buildings. We also talked about the judicial situation and the work done by the courts of justice. In addition, we studied the quality of dossier investigation by responsible officials, which all seemed to be very satisfactory. We also made notes on some of the problems which cannot be resolved throughout the region and will be duly set before future meetings of the Supreme Judicial Council."

Regarding the recent statements made by the imam, Hojjat ol-Eslam Moqtada'i stated: "In one of the meetings of the Supreme Judicial Council the remarks which were made by the imam were set forth and all his statements were carefully investigated sentence by sentence. These were statements on a very high level. Some guidelines and solutions to problems, which all were considered to be taken into consideration. One part of the imam's guiding remarks consist of these present investigations which are under way, another guideline consists of attracting proper manpower and the enhancement of the quality of the work of the courts which is under investigation. We hope that after the dispatch of judicial inspectors to the courts of justice, we will have proper control over the judicial system."

Regarding the fight against smugglers and narcotics, Hojjat ol-Eslam Moqtada'i said: "As regards the combat against narcotics and smugglers, the Supreme Judicial Council and the judicial system as a whole have carried out their task to completion and will ever do so." He went on to add: "Generally, we believe that the plan for the smuggling of narcotics is an evil and colonizing plan. This is a plot set up by the world arrogance to uproot the system of the Islamic Republic. Likewise, the imposed war has been planned to stand in the way of the system of the Islamic Republic. Therefore, in consideration of this plan, one of their threacherous weapons is the export of narcotics to our country. We hope that the same way that this dear nation has fought this imposed war and, as far as their lives or wealth is concerned, they will also fight against this political weapon without any reservation as well."

Concerning the decisions which have been made for improving the judicial situation, Hojjat ol-Eslam Moqtada'i stated: "Some general decisions have been made in this regard which have been successful. These measures have been imparted to the great imam who has expressed his satisfaction. As has been frequently stated by the imam of the nation regarding the attracting judicial

manpower, until now about 600 religious jurisprudents and honorable clerics from the universities and those individuals who have had at least two years of pertinent education abroad who have passed an exam and have been selected by the proper authorities have started their judicial duties."

Similarly, some of the ratified laws such as the Law of Retaliation and Flogging and a major part of Islamic punishment below the limit prescribed by law have been duly approved and are being implemented by judicial courts. At the present time, if it is proven that some body has stolen something, according to the Islamic laws his hand will be cut off. Regarding a premeditated or willful murder, according to the Law of Retaliation, the murderer will be duly punished. Drinking wine, execution of prohibited acts, and similar things will be properly investigated according to the Islamic laws in the courts of justice. To this end, as far as possible, proper measures have been taken toward islamization of the Justice Department. In like manner, other plans are under consideration which we hope will be enacted in the near future. Of course, we will need the cooperation and efforts of the honorable judges of the Justice Department and the revolution courts so that we will be able to carry out our plan for an Islamic system in the Justice Department."

As regards the land for the farmers, Hojjat ol-Eslam Moqtada'i stated: "The only case of agricultural issues which concerns the Judicial Council is 800,000 hectares of agricultural land which have been occupied by the farmers during 1358, 1359 and 1360 and have been cultivated by them. The legitimate owners of this land have gone to the judicial authorities for restitution. In contemplation of this matter, the Supreme Judicial Council issued a circular to the effect that the occupying farmers have to pay the landowners a proper share of their profits. If there were any vague or disputed instances, they should go to a seven-member arbitration committee so that after due investigation, if it were determined by this ~~card~~, an amount of rent would be paid by the farmers to the landowners. Thus, the only necessary measure taken by the Supreme Judicial Council has been this case, which I think has been very successful throughout the country. Of course, this circular will be valid until the enactment and ratification of new land reform law by the parliament."

In conclusion, he pointed to the measures taken by the Supreme Judicial Council in warding off the minigroups and said: "Measures taken by the Supreme Judicial Council, particularly the measures taken in warding off the counterrevolutionary minigroups is one of the honors of the judicial system of the Islamic Republic. According to Islamic laws the decisive measures taken by the courts of justice and the revolution courts deal with the terrorists who have declared a war against the system of the Islamic Republic. This has all occurred at a time and under conditions when our country has had to deal with the imposed war, in

an atmosphere of a nation with a new revolution and many other internal disorders which are but natural outcome of a revolution. However, God willing, our judicial organs with a revolutionary propensity were able to render useless all the efforts of the minigroups, so much so that recently, out of despair and hopelessness, they resort to the ignominious act of murdering defenseless people. In any case, through proper measures our judicial organs have arrested these murderers and after admitting their guilt, they have been duly punished."

12719

CSO: 4640/448

IRAN

REGULATIONS ON STUDENT ADMISSION, AID, OTHER ISSUES ANNOUNCED

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 17 Feb 85 p 17

/Text 7 KEYHAN Cultural Service--At a press conference held by the minister of higher education and culture new changes in the regulations on student admission to universities of the country, the formation of night classes, the continuation of studies by high school graduates and master's degree candidates, the creation of a new course in anesthesiology, the method of loan allocations for the purchase of a home by university professors and the mode of assigning an automobile to them was announced.

Yesterday, at the second session of the Council of the Presidents of the Universities Dr Fazel, minister of higher education and culture answered questions put to him by reporters. Regarding the designation of university admission quotas for different regions he stated: "The Council of Higher Education has had several discussions on this matter on an extensive basis. In general, the procedure of quota designation of the past was not approved. It was agreed that the Islamic Republic should reward the devoted and sincere people who in one way or another serve the Islamic military system since these are the sincerest people serving in the army. In the same way the people of the deprived regions who for the sake of fairness and justice, are given certain privileges in the matter of university entrance examinations. It also was approved that the members of the martyrs' families and the people who take a tour of duty in the deprived areas of the country for a period of two or three years and the young men who voluntarily and with self-sacrifice and devotion defend and protect the battlefronts of the Islamic Republic against the profanity of the world, should all be given certain privileges. Of course, after the completion of the details of the proposal relevant information regarding the method of execution of the law will be duly announced."

Regarding the process of selection and the method of investigation the minister stated: "The Supreme Council of Cultural Revolution, after extensive discussions, has determined the exact process of selection regulations. Therefore, it has been arranged so that the regulation for selection and the task of information gathering on individual be carried out only by reliable and trustworthy official agencies next year. This means that from now on the unofficial

local sources of information gathering will not be used in the process of investigation. This process will help eliminate the problems which we faced in previous years. Also by using competent official investigative agencies we will be able to stop those individuals who oppose the fundamental tenets of the Islamic Republic or those who have blatant moral deficiencies from entering our sacred universities. Obviously, many of the points which were previously taken into consideration regarding judgment decisions have been discarded. Therefore, other than the two groups which were mentioned above, all the remaining dear students can be sure that if they are duly qualified they won't be barred from entering the universities.

"As regards the quotas for different regions, the same age and grade average conditions as last year will apply; that is to say, a certain quota will be considered for deprived areas and the grade average will have no bearing at all."

Night Courses

In answer to the question: With regard to the high number of applicants for higher education and the limited capacity of the universities, is it planned that night courses will be offered at these universities? Dr Fazel stated: "Formation of night classes as a proposal has been sent to the universities so that they might give their opinions as to the strong or weak points of the suggestion. After the collection of prevailing ideas in a session similar to the present session of the presidents of the universities, the matter will be set forth and properly investigated, if confirmed by all the participants, it will be sent to the Supreme Council of Cultural Revolution for final approval.

"Notwithstanding, what is certain is that if classes are formed at night, tuition will have to be paid by the interested students. Nevertheless, perhaps these night courses will be offered by some of the universities which have announced their readiness, as a trial run."

Regarding the method of continuing the education of high school graduates, which had been announced previously by the deputy training secretary of this ministry and which by the end of the current year the process or method of university entrance exams was supposed to be determined, he stated: "In our country there are about 500,000 high school graduates who have not gained entry into our universities. With the limited capacity of the universities we can only admit something like one-tenths or nearly 50,000 of them. As a result, a large number of this group of high school graduates--a sum equivalent to 450,000 individuals who have no special skills or experience, will be left outside the doors of the universities. With due regard to the way society looks upon these individuals as a defeated, unsuccessful and disappointed persons, these young people will enter society. In order to eliminate this problem we

have to carefully study the situation. Since, considering the capabilities, talents and tastes of these individuals we can enter many of them into some kind of permanent work force and teach them some vocation which is badly needed by the country. Only a limited number of these young men who are properly capable and interested in continuing their education can do so. This important matter can be resolved by making some changes in the high school curricula. If this matter is dealt with in this fashion, the problems of many of our young people will be solved. On the other hand, with proper planning, our higher education system should be expanded so that in future years our existing possibilities are strengthened and in due course, with thorough understanding of our manpower and development opportunities, new institutions can be brought into operation."

The minister of higher education and culture added: "Recently, to this end, we had several constructive meetings with the minister of education and training and other responsible authorities of that ministry which have all been encouraging, right now I want to express my thanks to the minister of education and training and his honorable deputies for their sincere cooperation. I hope that these meetings will continue to be held and with the support of the Supreme Council of Cultural Revolution I'm sure that we will be able to take positive steps toward our goals."

Furthermore, regarding the continuation of the undergraduates of various fields of study who have not been able to finish their graduate courses, the minister of higher education and culture said: "Most of the graduate courses are offered now, likewise, the remaining fields of study will be offered when necessary according to needs and requirements. However, we believe that a final decision has to be made in this respect and the remaining courses of study be duly offered as soon as possible." Dr Fazel, went on to add: "With regard to the needs of the country for anesthesiologists, a plan is under consideration in this ministry which suggests that the applicants for the faculty of anesthesiology be selected from among the individuals who hold bachelor degrees in biology and experimental sciences."

As regards the provision of accommodations for professors he stated: "Under the agreement between this ministry and the Ministry of Heavy Industries, it is stipulated that a passenger car be assigned to all members of the faculty of the universities throughout the country on condition that they meet all the necessary qualifications. Therefore, all universities should send a list of the names of all individuals who meet the necessary qualifications to this ministry for proper action.

"In a like fashion, we have had several meetings with the honorable minister of housing and urban development regarding the provision of housing accommodations. I can say that except in four big cities, we don't expect any problems in other cities. Furthermore, we are in the process of negotiating to raise the ceiling of a home loan to one million tomans, so far we have had some useful discussions in this regard."

IRAN

EDUCATION MINISTER DISCUSSES UNIVERSITY NEEDS

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 27 Feb 85 p 2

[Text] Bakhtaran -- KEYHAN correspondent: We believe that the best way to train skilled manpower for the deprived regions is to make use of the talented students native to that region. Therefore, we should provide all educational possibilities in the universities for the youth of the deprived provinces.

In addition to making the above statement, Dr Iraj Fazel, minister of higher education and culture, who has travelled to Bakhtaran to investigate the problems and shortcomings of Razi University and to make the proper decision regarding the internship courses for 130 medical students of this university, also talked about the inadequacies of the universities and the elimination of shortages in the scientific and training cadres in a special interview with our correspondent.

First, he stated: "Among the inadequacies of the universities, at the present time, the problem of insufficient scientific and training cadre stands out. This situation is neither peculiar to the present circumstances nor is it an affliction peculiar only to our country. This situation has come about wherever and whenever there has been a revolution. Taking into consideration the fact that people with the necessary specialized skills for the country have to be trained and prepared as soon as possible so that our self-sufficiency is guaranteed, the inadequacy in the area of instruction cadre has to be eliminated as soon as possible so that universities will be able to attend to the problem of training and instructing students with their full capacity."

He also added: "The addition of courses toward master's and Ph D degrees in various fields of study for the purpose of training future instructors was one of the steps put into effect by the Ministry of Higher Education and Culture. At present, many of the students are taking courses in the newly offered fields of study. At this time, when it is not possible to initiate higher courses in certain areas of study, by sending our talented and responsible youths abroad we can insure that future instructors for these higher courses will be secured. Thus, the first program for the expansion of universities should concern itself

with the completion of the instruction cadres and the elimination of the inadequacies of the universities. Thereafter, we hope with proper planning, according to the needs of the country and the requirements of various regions, we will be able to set up new universities where necessary."

As regards the future role of Razi University he stated: "In principle we believe that the best way to train skilled manpower for the deprived regions is to make use of the talented students native to that region. For this reason, in the different universities of the deprived provinces the best method would be to provide the young people of those provinces with all educational possibilities. This would be the guarantee to help make these people stay in the region or the province where they belong after the completion of their education." He went on to add: "Considering the shortage of responsible and devoted instructors, Razi University of Bakhtaran has made noticeable improvements after the victory of the Islamic revolution. This university is a suitable center for the training of specialized skills in various fields of study in the region."

Dr Fazel further stated: "In the course of our previous and present discussions with the responsible brothers in this university, all the needs of this educational institution have been investigated and in cooperation with university officials, some steps have been taken toward the elimination of these needs."

In conclusion, Dr Fazel stated: "Considering the vast need for skilled specialists throughout the country, all the universities are obliged to take fresh steps to increase their educational capacity in various fields so that at least part of the needs of the country are taken care of. Toward this end, the plan for the creation of night classes at the universities or the plan for an increase in the capacity of the medical schools and several other plans are under consideration. After proper study and approval by the Supreme Cultural Revolution Council, these plans will be carried out, God willing."

12719
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IRAN

SPECIAL TERMINAL FOR HAJJ FLIGHTS INAUGURATED

Tehran KEYHAN in Perisan 13 Feb 85 p 3

[Text] At the beginning of the seventh year of the victory of the Islamic revolution of Iran, following efforts of the employees and officials of the national aviation organization, the repair and reconstruction of terminal Number One of Mehrabad airport is complete. In an inauguration ceremony yesterday morning with the presence of Engineer Nezhad Hoseynian, the minister of road and transport, Engineer Shafti, the director of the national aviation organization and a group of employees and officials of this organization, the terminal was re-opened and resumed operations.

At the beginning of the ceremony, after reading passages from the Quran, one of the airport officials explained the reconstruction methods and the inauguration of the terminal. Then Engineer Nezhad Hoseynian, the minister of road and transport in speech expressed his delight at the activities of Iran Air for increasing passenger comfort and for depending more on the country's aircraft industry and referred to the west, especially America and said: "In respect to this dependency, our enemies expected that after the revolution, the operation of our aircraft industry would face tremendous difficulties. Thanks to God, with the help and kindness of exalted God and the efforts and sacrifices of the staff of the national aviation organization, as in many other instances, we have succeeded and have made our abject enemies wonder. In the current year it is predicted that 4.5 million passengers will be served and this is an increase of 100 percent compared to 1979 and 40 percent more than the highest passenger transport figures from before the revolution. This shows the efforts and activities of the employees of Iran Air."

The minister of road and transport then emphasized the need to present more services to the passengers and the importance of good relations between airport officials and passengers. He stressed the need for harmony between all organizations active at the airport. He referred to the limitations of passenger services and said: "Fortunately with operation of this terminal for Hajj flights, the problems of other terminals will be mostly solved and at present we can use all three terminals for passenger flights."

Mr Nezhad Hoseynian at the conclusion of his speech, in referring to the importance of planning aviation affairs, thanked all the employees and those involved in the reconstruction and operation of the terminal.

Our reporter's report indicates that the minister of road and transport then visited the different sections of terminal number one of Mehrabad airport.

9815

CSO: 4640/397

IRAN

IRAN-TURKEY PASSENGER TRAIN TO BEGIN OPERATION EARLY SPRING

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 17 Feb 85 p 1, 3

/Text/ With a view to expanding the number of passengers and to transferring Iranian travellers to their destination in Turkey, Iran-Istanbul passenger trains will start operation by early next year.

Deputy Minister of Roads and Transportation Karbassian, who participated in a radio-TV and press interview, made the above statement and also gave an explanation regarding an increase in the frequency of use of existing trucks, the elimination of the problems of Iranian truck-owners in Austria and Italy, violations committed by Turkish truck drivers on Iranian highways, removing difficulties arising from nonstandardized gas tanks on Iranian trucks, training of drivers who possess a first class drivers license, traffic accidents and the poor condition of the roads.

First he stated: "In the years 1361 /21 March 1982 - 20 March 1983/ and 1362 /1983-84/ despite an extensive volume of imports we were not quite active in the area of merchandise transportation. However, after proper planning and programming to upgrade the capacity of the volume of transportation and despite the prevalent economic boycotts on spare parts and other similar items, we were able to adopt new procedures to speed up road transport of goods within the country."

He went on to add: "To this end, after the adoption of certain programs and the support of the great imam, the Ministry of Roads and Transportation was able to offload most of the goods which were lying in waiting at ports of entry and transfer them to their destinations in the country."

He also said: "Regarding creating a more active role in transportation for the truck drivers both within and outside the country, certain procedures, such as a raise in foreign exchange allowance to Iranian truck drivers, have been put into effect."

Moreover, he added: "On the basis of this plan the travelling expenses of a truck driver leaving for and coming from foreign destinations have been asses-

sed and accordingly, a proportionate amount of foreign exchange will be made available to each driver to cover such expenditures."

Regarding securing cargo for the truck drivers, the deputy minister of roads and transportation stated: "We are trying to ensure and secure the cargo for Iranian truck drivers. In this respect we need the assistance and cooperation of cargo owners, buyers and distribution centers, since the execution of this program will not only save us foreign exchange but we also will be able to help create a more active transportation business within the country."

He continued: "The key to the success of this program lies in the hands of the cargo owners and the Iranian buyers who can cooperate and assist us toward our goal."

Concerning the problems which the Iranian truck drivers face in Italy and Austria, the deputy minister of roads and transportation stated: "Such problems were the result of a lack of bilateral transport agreements between Iran and the above-mentioned countries. After the recent trip by an Iranian delegation to these countries, all necessary entry permits for these countries have been obtained. Particularly, regarding the issue of Iranian truck drivers' visas, the Iranian delegation was able to obtain an agreement on multiple entry visas for truck drivers who travel to these two countries. Regarding the tolls which are to be paid by Iranian truck drivers to these countries, to a certain extent we were fortunately able to bring down the amount of such tolls.

"Likewise, in view of the limitations on the issuance of entry visas by the Turkish government, Iranian truck drivers who were going to Europe through Turkey faced with certain problems. After the visit of our prime minister to that country who met with the relevant authorities, it was agreed that this limitation would be removed. Thus, in the future there will be no limitations on the number of Iranian truck drivers who want to go to Europe through Turkey."

Furthermore, he added: "During the course of the meetings of the Iranian delegation who travelled to Turkey with our prime minister and their Turkish counterpart, it was agreed that as far as possible the Turkish goods which are purchased by Iran should be transported to Iran by Iranian truck drivers. Of course, the complete execution of this plan will depend on opening a credit account and securing foreign exchange for the truck drivers by the Bank Markazi. Immediately after the approval and execution of the plan by Bank Markazi, within a maximum of one month the first convoy of Iranian trucks will be able to leave for Turkey to bring back the Turkish cargo."

Regarding the violations committed by Turkish truck drivers on Iranian highways, he said: "We have announced our position; that is, as soon as any

Turkish driver is seen violating the rules of the road, his entry visa will be cancelled immediately."

As regards the difficulties arising from nonstandardized gas tanks on Iranian trucks in Italy he stated: "During discussions with Italian authorities it was agreed that until the termination of the deadline for standardizing the gas tanks on Iranian trucks the Italian government will not hinder Iranian truck drivers."

Concerning training and upgrading the quality of driving of the Iranian truck drivers, the deputy minister of roads and transportation stated: "The Office of Training of the Ministry of Roads and Transportation has provided two courses of driving instructions and training for the drivers, particularly those drivers who possess first class drivers licenses. The tuition for these classes will be paid by the drivers themselves. I hope that this program will meet the approval of the responsible authorities and is put into effect throughout the country."

Furthermore, concerning traffic accidents he said: "With a view to reducing the number of traffic accidents, in the years 1361 /21 March 1982 - 20 March 1983/ and 1362, unfortunately on the basis of some incomplete information a program of action was proposed. Fortunately, after due deliberation and with the help of a computer in 1363 we were able to produce a comprehensive program and put it into effect. I hope that after complete execution of these programs throughout the country, we will see a noticeable drop in the number of such accidents."

He also stated: "With the use of new accident report forms, which have been prepared by the Traffic Office of the Ministry of Roads and Transportation and which have been put at the disposal of the highway police, we will be able to evaluate or analyze the main causes of the accidents, such as inadequate or poor road conditions, mechanical malfunctioning of the cars, the human element and so forth."

Regarding deficiencies or poor conditions of the highways he stated: "Within the limits of the budget, the Ministry of Roads and Transportation does its level best to eliminate existing deficiencies. However, I hope after the end of the war and with the provision of an adequate budget, we will be able to do a better job."

In conclusion he said: "I hope that the Department of Traffic and Motor Vehicle uses more discretion in the future in issuing drivers license, especially first class drivers licenses. In the meantime, driving schools should be more concerned about the quality of the driving instructions in a more involved manner."

12719
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PAKISTAN

ELECTIONS SAID OF LITTLE HELP IN FILLING 'POLITICAL VOID'

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 28 Feb 85 p 5

[Editorial: "General Election"]

[Text]

NOT TOO SURPRISINGLY, the CMLA-President's electioneering telecast stopped well short of disclosing his game plan for the coming months, thus blunting the edge of his earlier appeal to the politicians to play the political game according to the rules. For some reason, the rules which he himself had to prescribe and define have not yet been revealed, not even a day before the polls. General Ziaul Haq limited himself to urging the electors to cast their votes — as a national and religious duty. He asked them to ignore the appeals for a boycott, disregard all clan affiliations and cash inducements, and choose wisely among the candidates, who are seen to have come forward to shoulder burdens of an undecided quantum. The people's choice clearly is rather limited; with a very few exceptions the contestants are birds of one feather, possessing the common trait of eagerly seeking proximity to the throne, with no discrimination against any occupant. The CMLA-President also firmly assured the people that the elections would be free and fair, and that the

Government would remain completely neutral because, unlike previous regimes, it was not motivated by "a lust for power"; explaining this factor further he said that he himself had already secured his next term of office as President by success in a different arena. He further said that the Army had been alerted and would be ready to support the Administration to prevent any individual or group from creating a disturbance or obstructing the electoral process. The large-scale arrests made were allegedly justified with the accusation that the politicians had intended to create disruption and cause a breach of law and order. Seemingly, it is not realized by our decision-makers that the arrest and detention of so many political leaders not only takes away the freedom of hundreds or thousands of citizens but also that such action, particularly at this stage, takes away from the people the option to decide freely — after hearing different points of view — whether or not they wish to vote for any of the candidates offering themselves in current political circum-

tances.

Be that as it may, it seems a little unfair to ask the people to vote for high principles when none are being purveyed before them by the vast majority of eager candidates. In most cases those seeking membership of an assembly confess readily that they have entered the fray so that they, as individuals or through their biradari or factions, can gain or retain a position of some privilege and influence. They do not even pretend that they are offering a political programme of some interest to the nation or a socio-economic agenda that would appeal to their constituents, and only a few have gone beyond promising to perform mundane tasks or requite personal favours. Nor, except for the Jamaat's representatives (and their credibility has reached its lowest ebb), has any candidate expressed a serious opinion about the pending constitutional amendments. It seems that, as far as the new legislators are concerned, whatever is decided by the Martial Law regime will be accepted by them. This should make it possible for the Government to amend the 1973 Constitution by legislation rather than by Ordinance.

The existing political void cannot easily be filled by people who do not seem to be concerned about major national

issues, and they can hardly be expected to enthuse or mobilise the people. On the other hand, the people are still keenly interested in the salutary determination of national policies and sensible solutions to national problems. No matter what the election results, or the impact that the polls have on group fortunes or the personal misfortunes they cause, the people will keep their sights on more distant horizons. They will want to know when and how the country will be allowed to return to decontrolled democracy? When will the citizens and the Press be assured complete freedom of expression? When will the electorate be free to choose their rulers and determine the country's system of government? When will the units of the Federation acquire and be able to exploit the rights guaranteed to them under the country's only consensus-blessed Constitution? Whatever the factors that have caused delay in the realization of these vital civic rights, whether viewed over years or decades, the final transition must lead to unalloyed, unrestricted democracy, if it is to give acceptable satisfaction to the people and protect the country from its continuing crises. This is the people's common aim, and it is their general view that the current ambiguous scheme is not likely to take the country much nearer to its goals.

PAKISTAN

ECONOMIC PROBLEMS SEEN AS STIFF CHALLENGE FOR NEW PARLIAMENT

Karachi DAWN in English 7 Mar 85 p 7

[Article by Sultan Ahmed]

[Text]

A NATIONAL election in which neither major political nor economic issues came to the fore has come to an end. Politically the Majlis-i-Shoora is to function within the framework provided by Gen. Zia-ul-Haq by amending the 1973 Constitution extensively, but the economic front is wide open, and the newly elected members can assert themselves productively if they choose and act in concert.

The National Assembly will come into session in a period of increasing economic stress in Pakistan. Soon after it meets it would have to grapple with the 1985-86 budget — and so would the provincial assemblies. They have to approach the budget not in the manner the nominated members of the Majlis-i-Shoora did, with every member merely wanting to speak on it and be reported, but merely, to focus on local problems, but in an effective manner, keeping in view not only the current economic issues but also the large problems which lie in wait.

This is also the mid-term of the Sixth Five-Year Plan — 1983-88 which is running to a serious financial storm and taking the initial bumps. If far more funds are not allocated for the next Annual Development Plan, which is by no

means easy, and they are not mobilised by cutting down the expenditure on non-productive sectors, the plan will fall to pieces, like most others in the past, leaving a hard core, as Dr Mahbubul Haq defines it, with a high priority.

Sixth plan

The problems which the country faces have to be tackled on an urgent basis. The usual slow and ultra-cautious approach will not do now. The fact is that if much of prosperity witnessed in Pakistan in the later half of the 1970s and the initial 1980s when the home remittances reached the peak of 3.08 billion dollars, was the result of external developments, some of the major problems we face today, too, are the result of external developments. And they range from the soaring super dollar, weak economic recovery in Europe, recession in the oil States following the fall in oil prices and sharp cuts in production and export to uncertainties in regard to increase in foreign aid and the far higher rupee cost of repaying old loans and interest thereon. To face such varied challenges over which we have no control and make the necessary adjustments, the country has to show a good deal of sagacity as well as guts and be ready for the inevitable changes.

But are the newly elected equipped for such tasks? No. The members of the National Assembly could not come up with their credo during the elections. And if they

had no one would have taken them seriously, as while an individual may be able to voice his protest in the assembly when permitted he cannot bring about major changes. Secondly, corner meetings and election literature approved by district magistrates, are not meant to explain candidates' economic philosophy or programmes. These are usually the tasks of political parties which come up with their manifestoes with large emphasis on the economic sector. So the non-party elections became non-economic elections as well.

The members have to begin now by asking basic questions about the economic, and asking for the real facts and their implications, and not be content with what is usually purveyed to them and their common official interpretation. Finance Minister Ghulam Ishaq Khan would not be able to be too paternalistic to the members as he was in the nominated Majlis-i-Shoora when he protested that they could not move adjournment motions against the government as they were part of it. He will have to be made to lay the full facts and future projections on the table of the house now.

Stings of poverty

But the problem with many of the newly elected members is that they are too rich either as old landlords, new industrialists and businessmen or retired military commanders and civil servants who have their landed or commercial in-

terests or both. So they do not have serious personal economic pressures or experienced the stings of poverty with which the masses have to contend.

Of course, the zamindars and vaderas will lobby with their elected brethren, and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry and other trade bodies will make their elected brethren act as their spokesman in the assembly. And the candidates who have been elected on a religious basis may speak more about economic justice in Islam but not be able to come up with feasible propositions in specific terms.

In spite of good economic performance at the GNP level expected this year, exports have been falling, and home remittances dwindling — by 13 per cent during the first five months of this financial year instead of increasing by 10 per cent as projected by the Sixth Plan — and the balance of payments is becoming too critical.

If it is true that the deficit in the current account of the balance of payments which was one billion dollars last year may rise to two billion dollars this year, our falling exchange reserve would be nearly wiped out after it had reached the peak of 2.8 billion dollars. But then, if exports fall, and home remittances dwindle, while imports increase and the burden of the debt servicing is heavy, such a critical deficit in the balance of payments becomes inevitable.

Inflation at home is rising because of the higher rupee cost of the imports and increase in wages at home. Unemployment will become a grave problem as more of the workers return home from the Gulf. And the revenues of the State are reported to have fallen, increasing the budget deficit and expanding the volume of deficit financing — largely printing of

notes. It has been stated that banks were suddenly permitted to invest their deposits on Khas certificates — Rs 800 crore by February — so that more funds could be mobilised to cover the revenue gap. And the soaring dollar has not only made day to day foreign transactions too costly but even more the rupee investment cost of development. When every dollar worth of machinery and equipment costs Rs 16.02 instead of Rs 9.90 as it was in January 1982, industrial investment has to become too expensive.

Transformation

In the face of such external and internal economic problems the economy, particularly the vital financial sector, is being Islamised. Banks and investment finance institutions are undergoing a process of transformation from interest bearing operations to profit sharing transactions. Many insist the transformation is more cosmetic than real, and that beneath the profits mentioned is a hard core interest rate even higher than what has been obtaining hitherto. Anyway, the banks are in a state of flux for the stereotyped bankmen who usually tread the beaten path religiously.

How much the National Assembly can cope with such a situation would depend on how often it meets and how long are its sessions, and how much time is allotted to debate economic issues. No less important is the time members are prepared to give to study the economic problems and their possible solutions at home.

In the next assembly, like in the last Majlis, the Finance Minister would not be speaking on behalf of a majority party or presenting his budget or economic policies or de-

velopment according to a pre-determined party policy package or manifesto. He will be acting on behalf of the President, and in theory on behalf of the Prime Minister and the Cabinet. While the assembly will not have a contribution in the formulation of the budget by specifying its parameters, it can have the option to throw out what is presented. These are some of the paradoxes of non-party elections.

If the elected members have no party manifestoes to go by, they do not have the benefit of private economic institutes either to guide them. And institutions like the Institute of the Policy Studies of Prof. Khurshid Ahmad have very small scope. Even the Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, and regional chambers are not doing any serious study of economic problems or compiling independent data. So the new members will be working largely in a vacuum beyond the immediate interests of their class.

The members can make up for all that by having strong standing committees of the Assembly for each of the economic ministries — finance, industries, commerce, economic affairs, planning, energy etc. — and having long meetings in which non-official experts from each field can be asked to testify. Such committees should become core units of the Assembly if the ministers are not overawe or bamboozle the members.

Talking of the economic issues, or protesting against official policies or lack of them on the floor of the assemblies will not do. Purposeful and decisive deliberations of such committees are imperative. Otherwise the Finance Minister and other Ministers will have the last word as has been our painful history in the economic field.

PAKISTAN

LAWYERS' BODY CRITICIZES AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 7 Mar 85 p 6

[Text]

WAH CANTT: March 6: Mr. Shabbir Ghauri, President of Wah Cantt. Bar Association, has criticised the constitutional amendments announced by President Ziaul Haq, terming them as a major inroad into the 1973 Constitution which was framed by a duly elected parliament. He was talking to the Muslim on phone this morning. Mr. Ghauri was surprised about the timing of the amendments which were rather hastily announced even though nationwide elections to the national assembly had been held.

"If at all any amendments in the popularly adopted constitution of 1973 were required, these ought to have been left to the newly elected assembly," Mr. Ghauri remarked. In that case, he continued, the charge often heard from the MRD and other parties that the future assembly would be a powerless house despite the explicit will of the newly elected members, would have automatically stood repudiated.

"The major amendments announced by the President besides arming him with unlimited powers, are also bound to affect the position of the new assembly and it is anybody's guess, if the new legislators would be able to reconcile to the status that awaits them in the would-be national assembly.

"Although, the amendments can be nullified by the assembly", as stated by the President," Mr. Ghauri, continued, "but a deeper study of the procedure involved for doing this is both cumbersome and in-

tricate making it practically impossible to reverse the proposed amendments without inviting another major constitutional crisis.

Mr. Ghauri concluded by saying that since President Zia was in a position to review the whole spectrum of the proposed amendments which is not easy for more than two hundred elected reps., he should agree to take the newly elected peoples' representatives into confidence and reach a consensus on the useful changes that are needed in the national interest.

CSO: 4600/344

PAKISTAN

WALI KHAN CRITICIZES CHANGES IN CONSTITUTION

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 8 Mar 85 p 8

[Text]

PESHAWAR, March 7: Khan Abdul Wali Khan, the President of the defunct NDP, said here today that the President had been made the centre of all power — federal and provincial — after the amendments in the 1973 Constitution, which, in fact, 'does not exist now'.

Addressing a big meeting held in Tehkal to mark the third death anniversary of his comrade and ex-Governor of the Frontier Province, Arbab Sikandar Khan Khalil, he said the 1973 Constitution was buried when martial law was imposed and was followed by the PCO. As such the document being claimed as an amendment was a new constitution altogether. No individual, he said, had the right to amend the Constitution.

Mr. Wali said the task could only be done by the elected representatives of the people. The CMLA's only job, he said, was to hold elections within 90 days and this he had committed not only to his own people but to the outside world as well. But instead the CMLA held a referendum and amended the Constitution for which he had no mandate. Gen. Zia, he added, was welcome to join politics provided he cut his link with the army and followed the normal course.

The NDP President who was freed only last evening after a month-long detention also criticised the Government's policy on the Afghan issue and said that Pakistan

had unnecessarily been involved in the conflict for the sake of the Americans who had no sympathy for Pakistan but were following their own global strategy. Pakistan he said, had no enmity towards any of its neighbours.

He reiterated that the Federal Government should only keep defence, foreign affairs, currency and communications and the rest of the subjects should be left to the provinces. He said that his party's struggle was for the restoration and protection of the people's right and not for taking power. He said it was strange that three parties, the Jamaat, PML (Pagar Group) and Kausar Niazi's party had fully participated on party basis in the partyless elections but the Government kept its eyes shut. He also bitterly criticised the alarming rise in the cost of living over the last seven years.

CSO: 4600/345

PAKISTAN

AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION TERMED 'RATIONAL, PRACTICAL'

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 8 Mar 85 p 8

[Text]

LAHORE, March 7: A wide section of the enlightened public opinion has described the recent constitutional amendments as not only necessary, but also in entire accordance with dynamics of modern times parliamentary democracy, writes an APP correspondent.

A large number of educationists, lawyers, politicians and newly elected members of the National and the Provincial Assemblies have described the amendments as logical, rational and practical and have expressed the hope that they would usher in an era of uninterrupted democracy in the country. There was no point, they said, in taking steps towards the restoration of democracy without removing the maladies and deficiencies which impeded the quest for a political solution in 1977 and resulted in the imposition of Martial Law.

Those interviewed said the President, being the first citizen of the state, could obviously not be a mere figurehead. If the President was to be the constitutional head of the state, then the constitution must also provide him the requisites to exert his

authority and to act as a leader of the nation and play a definite role in the national affairs.

A large number of those interviewed said that the constitutional amendments had provided a happy amalgam enabling both the President and the Prime Minister to work in a spirit of constructive camaraderie.

A number of newly elected members of the assemblies when approached said that the amendments had transformed the 1973 Constitution into a document paving the way for a truly parliamentary system, both in outlook and practice. The amendments would also prevent both the President and the Prime Minister, and for that matter anyone else, to take any undue advantage or to initiate any measure against the national consensus.

The concept of making the Objectives Resolution as part of the substantive provisions of the constitution has also elicited favourable comments from all concerned, who believed that the President had acted in line with the wishes of the founding fathers of the nation and had made a long cherished dream come true.

Meanwhile various sections of the public opinion has welcomed the expansion in the electoral

college for the election of the President, and have expressed the opinion that amendments in this connection would ensure that future presidents would enjoy the confidence of all the provinces.

They said an extremely important amendment had been made in the functioning of the Government by enabling the President to submit for the consideration of the cabinet any matter on which a decision had been taken by the prime minister or a minister but which had not been considered by the cabinet.

This new provision, they said, would ensure collective responsibility and would check tendency on the part of the ministers to act arbitrarily.

The amendments providing for the enlargement of the Senate to enable ulama, technocrats and other professionals to seek election to this august body has also been described as a step of far-reaching consequences because this would induct into the statecraft people with special knowledge and practical experience.

The presence of such distinguished persons in the Senate, who otherwise would have preferred to remain away from politics, would be extremely beneficial for the country.

Similarly the provision for the election of one-third of the Senate members after every two years has also been described as a very welcome step because this would make this important house highly responsive to the changing requirements of the people, besides providing a sense of continuity of the structure of the federation.

The political pundits have also welcomed the reaffirmation in the Constitution that the cabinet would be collectively responsible to the National Assembly, which in itself would be fully sovereign. - APP

CSO: 4600/345

PAKISTAN

DISSATISFACTION EXPRESSED OVER POLITICAL TRENDS

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 8 Mar 85 p 8

[Text]

LAHORE, March 7: Air Marshal (Retd) Nur Khan, MNA-elect from Attock, said that it was our national tragedy that in Pakistan Parliament was never allowed to function and to play its role in national affairs and subsequently the country had gone through long periods of Martial Law. He observed that even today after the general elections, things were taking shape which would create suspicious and intrigues.

He was talking to local journalists in Lahore Press Club's programme 'Meet the Press'. He said the only possible way to take the country out of the most difficult situation was that before the National Assembly session members should try to evolve a definite economic and political programme, which should be pursued by the Government.

Referring to recent amendments in the constitution, he said a dangerous situation had developed as under the new arrangement the Prime Minister would have no link with the Governors and Chief Minis-

ters of the Provinces, and this could sow the seeds of mistrust and create an ideal situation for those who were active to break up the country. He said in order to place things in the right order, the Assembly must adopt an economic development programme and break down the present administrative structure so that the centralisation of power can be brought to an end. He warned that if the Parliament was not allowed to work and the experiment failed, then the nation would face the same fate as it had experience in the past.

Referring to the constitutional amendments, he said a very difficult situation had arisen because the members had to take an oath under the amended Constitution. He said now the Constitution had become a one-man constitution. He suggested that members should demand that amendments should remain operative only until a certain date. In his view the next five years would be transitory, and thereafter the 1973 Constitution would become operative.

CSO: 4600/345

PAKISTAN

COMMENTARY VIEWS 'HISTORIC' MARCH EVENTS

Karachi DAWN in English 7 Mar 85 p 7

[Article by Ghazi Salahuddin]

[Text]

AFTER elections, what? The amendments. Almost a new constitution. And Martial Law continues. Just as war is said to be a continuation of politics by other means, the amended constitution may be seen as the continuation of what it has been during the past eight years. Even when assemblies have been elected under the amended rules of Martial Law, the President has acted as the law-giver.

I do not have to devote much space to the constitutional crisis, which only indicates that the ultimate end of military rule is bound to be traumatic. Already, a large number of former judges have interpreted the amendments and political elements have also expressed their views. Those of us who saw the elections as a historical opportunity for transition from authoritarian to popular rule are totally dismayed. Obviously, we do not learn from history. At least the rulers never do.

So where do we go from here? For the time being, we must live with our sense of loss of fundamental rights. Amendments announced on Saturday have overshadowed the entire landscape. The very destiny of this unfortunate country has become an issue. That the 1973 Constitution is still relevant is the only hope.

After amendments, the execution of Nasir Baluch, a political activist, makes this a week of disturb-

ing thoughts. The death sentence was handed out by a Special Military Court. Mercy petitions of three others who had been given the same sentence under the same charge of abetment in the hijacking of four years ago were accepted. Among those who pleaded for Nasir's life were some newly-elected members of assemblies.

Thus has begun another March, a month of momentous beginnings in our history. Detention period of the prominent political leaders whose release was promised soon after elections was also extended. It would appear that the environment of fear and helplessness was being restored.

I find it difficult to respond to the execution of Nasir Baluch. There is the human angle. Every person is irreplaceable. The thought that we may be one of the world's leading countries in terms of executions is scary. It is also disturbing that most of the executions in recent years were the result of trials in military courts.

It would be a diversion to consider the two opposing views on the death penalty. Amnesty International, by the way, is committed to oppose the death penalty on the ground that it violates the right to life and that it is the most cruel, inhuman and degrading of all forms of punishment.

This is one of the main arguments put forward by the Amnesty: "The death penalty is irreversible. Decided upon according to fallible processes of law by fallible human beings, it can be — and actually has been — inflicted upon people innocent of any crime". Besides, there is no definite evidence that death

penalty is an effective deterrent. At times, it may serve a very different purpose.

Nasir Baluch's execution brings to mind the March of 1981 when the seed of terrorism was planted in Pakistan. It was a major new development and reflected the state of our society. That is why I say that March has been momentous.

Of course, the very dream was born in March — forty-five years ago. Then, we were free to hold a public meeting and demand the creation of a new state. The founder of Pakistan was able to achieve this goal without having to go to jail.

The seeds of the present Martial Law were sown in March 1977, when elections led to disturbances. It was in the same month the next year that the former Prime Minister was sentenced to death by a full bench of the Lahore High Court.

Before 1977, too, March had occasionally been extremely violent and historically significant. Ayub Khan abdicated in March 1969 in circumstances we should carefully understand to be able to resolve some of our basic problems. Army action launched in March 1971 culminated in the birth of Bangladesh.

No, I am not asking you to beware of the Ides of March. In fact, only last week I was striking a cheerful note. It is true that things are beginning to happen and we should look ahead with some anticipation. The amendments may also be seen as a clarification. The cards have been put on the table.

Even the Jamaat-i-Islami, the only defunct political party to have gone along with the Martial Law regime, is unhappy with the amendments and has termed them a "package of irrational changes". The same day that Jamaat issued its statement after a two-day meeting of the central working committee in Lahore — on Monday — its Naib Amir, Prof. Ghafoor Ahmad spoke more frankly at the Karachi Press Club.

Jamaat's setback in the elections and the amendments have vindicated Prof. Ghafoor's stand in the party and he has returned to the fold. The amendments, as the retired Air Marshal Asghar Khan said, have also vindicated the MRD's decision not to contest elections. Let us see what happens when the new National Assembly meets and the detained leaders are released and the Martial Law is lifted. We at least know when the assembly is to meet.

CSO: 4600/350

PAKISTAN

AMENDMENTS SAID 'CONTRARY TO ISLAMIC TEACHING'

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 7 Mar 85 p 6

[Text]

MULTAN, March 6: The chief of the defunct Khaksar Tehrik, Khan Mohammad Ashraf Khan has said that amendments in the 1973 Constitution announced by President Zia were totally contrary to the provisions of Quran and Sunnah. Talking to The Muslim he said that Amir or Khalifa or President of any Islamic state is accountable to the shoora and the people and "Moqtidar-e-Aala" is Almighty Allah but President Zia established his supremacy by making amendments in the Constitution.

He said that now no court of the country was empowered to summon the president or Governors involved in any criminal case while Islam did not spare anyone

and empowered the Qazi to summon Amir or Khalifa of the state. He added that local Councils are empowered to choose their Chairman or Mayor but the National Legislative Council cannot elect its Prime Minister. He further said that detention of political leaders was repugnant to the injunctions of Islam as it did not allow anyone to keep someone in confinement without any trial. He said that extension of period to 20 years for separation of the judiciary from the executive aimed at maintaining the supremacy of the executive over the judiciary...

LANGAH: Taj Mohammad Khan Langah, Deputy Secretary General of the defunct Awami Jamhoori Party has demanded re-

stitution of the 1973 Constitution in toto and for withdrawal of the recently made amendments.

Addressing a press conference he said that the MRD had taken a wise step in boycotting the elections. This was now being admitted by even MNA's and MPA's elect. He further demanded the immediate release of all detenus, and withdrawal of cases instituted against exiled political workers.

Mr. Langah said that our form of government was neither Presidential nor Parliamentary but it was an exclusive form of government which was not applicable in an Islamic state.

He further said that our Constitution was now an amalgam of French, American and Turkish constitutions but rights given to the people in these Constitutions were not endorsed in the amalgamated Constitution of Pakistan.

CSO: 4600/344

PAKISTAN

OFFICIAL SAYS PRIMARY EDUCATION TO BE COMPULSORY

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 7 Mar 85 p 3

[Text]

ISLAMABAD March 6 Primary education is likely to be made compulsory for the children upto the age of five years and promulgation of an Ordinance to this effect is expected soon.

Brig. Bashir Ahmed Malik, Director General Federal Government Educational Institutions disclosing this in a radio programme 'Bil Mushafa' said there were a number of under-utilised schools in Islamabad Capital territory which are situated at a walking distance in the rural and urban areas. These schools he added, will be used for this scheme, and if necessary double shift system would also be introduced.

He said the Ordinance will ensure that every five year boy and girl in the Capital territory is a school going child.

Referring to enrolment of students in the educational institutions being administered by the Federal Government he said about

70,000 students were enrolled in 270 educational institutions from primary to top level while only 3000 were currently studying in the privately managed institutions in the Capital.

Analysing the ratio students, he said the number of girl students enrolled in the Federal Government Institutions was comparatively higher than the male students.

Brig. Malik said four model schools for disabled and handicapped students were being established soon in accordance with the directive of the President who took keen interest in setting up of model schools for the disabled children.

He said, every possible effort was being made to further improve the educational standard in the Federal Government schools and colleges. For this purpose, the directorate of the F.G. institutions was endeavouring to have more and more highly qualified teaching

staff, he said.

Brig. Malik said recently the Federal Minister for Education Dr. Mohammad Afzal visited some of the institutions and expressed his fullest satisfaction over the performance of these institutions and described them as 'model schools.'

He said over Rs.77 lakh have been utilised for the provision of furniture, laboratory equipment and other necessities. These facilities he said are being equally provided to both rural and urban institutions.

Brig. Malik disclosed that a separate wing for dealing with the affairs of the women staff has been set up in the directorate, in which women officers have been assigned to look after the affairs of the girls schools and female teachers.

Brig. Bashir Malik said Government was making concrete efforts to fully adopt Islamic education.

APP

CSO: 4600/344

PAKISTAN

NO HOPE SEEN OF MARTIAL LAW BEING LIFTED

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 28 Feb 85 p 11

[Article by Ayaz Amir: "Can Martial Law Be Lifted?"]

[Text]

INDIA'S first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, earned his spurs as a Congress leader by spending eight years in British jails. One spin-off was the 'History', written in the form of letters to his daughter, Indira. Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan attained a legendary status for the same reason. His politics brought him endless incarceration both before and after Partition. These are two examples but there are countless others. Going to jail was a powerful symbol in pre-Partition politics, synonymous with political activism. It gave honour and respect to those who suffered it. But with the present Martial Law, the longest in the nation's history and quite the longest anywhere in the Third World, the leadership aspect of going to jail has undergone a radical change.

Demytified

Arrests, detentions and long prison terms have been so common and have affected so many people that the whole notion has been thoroughly demystified. Death does not excite wonder on the battlefield. Nor prison when it becomes an everyday experience. Trial and conviction by military courts is still different. But preventive detention, the stuff from which heroes were made formerly, has been seriously discredited. In the MRD movement in 1983, a clear distinction was drawn between those workers

and leaders who braved the danger of courting arrest and those who let themselves be picked up from their homes. It is an unfair distinction, but it is an indication of the way Martial Law has radicalised traditional political perceptions.

The British displayed a fine historical sense when they turned portions of the Lahore and Delhi forts into major interrogation centres. They reserved them for people who had committed crimes against the State, at least as the British interpreted the concept. Like other legacies of the Raj, this one, too, gained a fresh lease of life at the time of independence. The place jails used to occupy in the popular imagination has now been taken by the Lahore Fort. A person who has been through its ancient chambers is like a piece of tempered steel.

Prison, however, is not a romantic place. Everyone can't transmute the experience into deathless poetry as Faiz did. The wholesale powers of arrest, detention and quick-fix trials this Government has enjoyed by virtue of Martial Law have had a definite political impact. Notwithstanding the views of some of our intellectuals, these powers have proved decisive in controlling the political situation since 1977. But for them (and the fear of lashing) it is questionable whether the regime could have weathered so many storms. Quelling unrest once it takes place is one thing, forestalling

it is quite another. From a law-and-order point of view, the Government has never let the grass grow under the feet of the Opposition. It has restricted the movement of its leaders, banned their entry from one province to another and generally kept them under a strict watch. The ability to nip unrest in the bud has been conferred by Martial Law. The pre-poll wave of arrests of political workers and leaders was a true reflection of the law-and-order style of the Government. To pre-empt election unrest the police picked up anyone it wanted. Questions were asked later.

Addiction

Although law-and-order has been raised to the level of a philosophy in this country, its constant application has led to a dangerous addiction. The law-and-order approach is considered adequate to meet all exigencies, political, social and economic. But clearly this approach is short-sighted. Law-and-order can suppress the symptoms of unrest; it cannot eradicate its causes. Consider the situation in the country which is pretty restive underneath the surface. Seven and a half years of Martial Law have not put an end to the people's craving for democratic freedoms. Opposition parties, badly mauled in a hundred ways, continue to survive and continue to swear by the 1973 Constitution. Everyone knows how the referendum turned out. The elections to the National and Provincial Shooras have been conducted in a vacuum. The regime craves a permanent basis for itself but despite being around for

so long (it already enjoys the second longest tenure in the history of the country), the picture it gives is that of an ad hoc administration. Since most of these problems are intractable, the temptation to respond to them with a mixture of bluster and force, or to simply sweep them under the carpet, is hard to resist. If nothing else, this consideration alone makes Martial Law indispensable. That is why, whatever might be the other consequences of the present elections, the immediate removal of martial law is unlikely to be one of them. Nor for that matter are the elections likely to disturb General Zia's position as Army Chief of Staff. These are the two cornerstones guaranteeing the stability of the present structure.

After Martial Law

Government spokesmen, however, have said that Martial Law will be lifted two to three months after the elections, in stages, it is true, but lifted all the same. The CMLA President himself has been slightly more ambiguous. In remarks to the London Observer he has said the stages by which Martial Law will be lifted will be assessed "by how strong and stable the future Government is." This formulation leaves him with considerable room for manoeuvre. But setting aside all the scepticism, if Martial Law is at all withdrawn, never mind in how many stages, an entirely new situation will emerge. Whatever its other implications, that situation will test the skill and courage of the political parties to the utmost.

PAKISTAN

CIVIL SERVICE: NO PROGRESS SAID MADE IN REFORMING HIGHER GRADES

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 7 Mar 85 p 8

[Article by Saeed Qureshi]

[Text] ISLAMABAD, March 6: The reorganisation of the structure of superior services in Pakistan, said to be long overdue, is making no headway. Justice Anwarul Haq's Report of 1980, which aroused considerable acrimony in the service groups, barring the District Management Group (DMG), is said to have lost its validity.

One of the key recommendations of the Anwarul Haq Report called for the creation of an All Pakistan Services Group with a mandatory 33 per cent quota from the District Management Group. This privilege was denied to other service groups such as Finance, Police, Office Management and Secretariat.

In addition to this the All Pakistan Services Group which was to comprise the officers of Grade 19 and above had a provision for the DMG officers to move from one group to the other. This facility again was not allowed to other service officers.

While the DMG officers are entitled to the scheduled pro-

motions in grade and status, as enshrined in the Anwarul Haq Report, no decision has been taken on the promotion or dispersal of the OMG groups so far. Knowledgeable sources say in the matter of promotion and upgradation the same treatment has been accorded to Commerce, Police, Accounts, OMG and several other groups forming the entire superior service structure.

The Office Management group, which Anwarul Haq Report recommended should be disbanded and its officers dispersed to other groups has had no promotions for the past six years owing to a still pending decision on their dispersal. This has also stalled their promotions to the next grade. Their senior posts are being filled by induction from outside, depriving the inservice officers of their legitimately earned promotions on the basis of seniority of service.

Another favourite group benefiting from the recommendations of

the Anwarul Haq Report is said to be the Customs which have the advantage of moving from one service group to the other and at the same time benefiting from timely promotions.

The Anwarul Haq Commission was set up six years ago to remove some anomalies in the superior service structure following the sweeping administrative reforms of 1973. The reforms which had knit the senior officers in a rosary of grades irrespective of their status, had also abolished the colonial distinction of "gazetted" and "non-gazetted". With that the class pattern of the service had also vanished.

A group of senior officers, while talking to 'The Muslim', voiced their serious apprehensions over the deteriorating standards and conditions in the superior services, alleging that it was all a spillover of the Anwarul Haq Report.

They said that the ill-will and heart-burning of the officers belonging to the groups, minus Customs and DMG, sprang from the deep sense of deprivation they were suffering as a result of the denial of their rights. They thought that it was time to set up a new commission for an objective and realistic appraisal of the whole thorny issue with a view to hammering out a formula of service promotions and other matters, which would be acceptable to all the groups.

Reports say that a special committee of the Establishment Division is preparing a fresh set of rules to improve the conditions of the deprived groups. But in that too the ascendancy of the DMG officers has been kept intact. Well informed sources claim that in the new recommendations the Establishment Division plans to restore the old order of classes in the services. It is not known how the unified grade structure will be reconciled with the class system abolished during the 1973 reforms.

PAKISTAN

FOREIGN POLICY ANALYZED, SEEN 'SERVING FOREIGN INTERESTS'

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 7 Mar 85 p 4

[Text]

A recent critic of US foreign policy (Reason & Realpolitik, Louis Rene Beres (Toronto 1984) quoted the following passage from Henry Kissinger's speech at a CENTO meeting in May 1976, as still the core of US foreign policy:

"Peace rests fundamentally on an equilibrium of strength. The US will stand by its friends. It accepts no sphere of influence. It will not yield to pressure. It will continue a reliable partner to those who defend their freedom against foreign intervention or intimidation",

and then went on to demonstrate that all these premises were false, and the claims made on the basis of these premises were all untrue.

There was no evidence that the 'balance of power' produces peace. The US will certainly not stand by its friends if such support is apt to produce devastating military consequences. US has always accepted the idea of spheres of interest. US will yield to pressure if the probable benefits are judged to exceed the probable costs. US will be a reliable partner only when such action is deemed consistent with the real politiker's assessment of the national interest. The author emphasised that with the dawn of the atomic age, the search for security through destructive weaponry has led only to increased insecurity. By its policy to align itself with reactionary regimes the US enlarges the prospects for confrontation

with the other superpower either directly or by escalating involvement with surrogate forces. He pleads for a new set of premises, and a new definition of the "national interest". US's own national interest must be defined from the standpoint of what is best for the world system as a whole, and rejecting the 'ethic of social Darwinism', which is a law of the jungle, ensuring or justifying only the 'survival of the fittest' founded on brute force.

How is US foreign policy shaping in this part of the world, particularly with reference to Afghanistan and how does it affect Pakistan. We need to re-examine some of the recent speeches made by US Secretary of State Shultz, US scholars and foreign policy analysts, and the speech of the Russian Ambassador in Pakistan, Vitaly S. Smirnov, at Lahore on 14 February 1985.

PIVOTAL ROLE

Speaking before the Congress Foreign Affairs Sub-Committee for Asian and Pacific Affairs on 19th February 1985 Shultz said: "It is vital that we help ensure the security of Pakistan in the face of Soviet intimidation", and that the American 6-year assistance programme for Pakistan serves this goal. Shultz praised India as the "largest democracy in the world", and saw it playing a "pivotal role in the peace and stability of this region". It was also stated that US plans to "insulate various countries in Asia economically and militarily against Soviet expansionism". An American specialist on South-East Asia who works for US Congress' defence and research services, in a recent interview served Pakistan with three options: (1) close political and military relationship with

the USA; (2) an accommodation with the Soviet Union; and (3) improved relations with India, and then pronounced his judgement that the first option was "the right option". The same researcher has stated that in case of a Soviet attack on Pakistan the USA would fight for Pakistan. US official policy sees Pakistan's security purely in military terms. In February 1985 a US Defence official stated: "We have tangibly demonstrated US concern for Pakistan's security by the sale of military equipment to strengthen the country's deterrent posture and defence capabilities." At the same time US policy is keen to ensure that "India's clear relative military advantage over Pakistan is not diminished" (US Defence official). This is the India historically hostile to Pakistan. US official sources keep emphasising that "Soviet pressure on Pakistan has increased security needs of Pakistan"; that "Pakistan requires and has received our firm support as that brave nation has stood firm against Soviet efforts to intimidate it" (US Defence official).

Side by side US military strength and commitment abroad keeps growing. It has been stated that since Reagan, the number of US forces abroad has grown by about 40,000. In 1984 the USA had a total worldwide strength of over two million military forces round the world in Europe, Asia, Africa and Latin America, besides joint-defence treaty obligations with more than forty countries. The military interventionist policies of both the super powers has led to more wars, more defence expenditures, and an ever-increasing arms race. There was a report which stated that since the establishment of the UNO in 1945, there had been 75 wars — on an average 9 wars a year in the 1950s to 14 wars

a year so far in the 1980s (1984). This has also increased the likelihood of a direct conflict between the super powers. There have been rumours — stoutly denied by official sources — that Pakistan has granted the Pentagon rights to the Makran coast, as well as permission to use military bases in the country.

ORIENTATION

Ever since Prime Minister Liaquat Ali Khan's visit to the USA in 1950 in preference to the Soviet Union's earlier invitation, Pakistan has linked itself to a foreign policy orientation, which seemed to serve American more than Pakistan interests. In 1950 Pakistan voted for China's representation in the UN, but afterwards, upto 1960 sided with US sponsored resolutions for postponing the question of China's seat in the Security Council. Pakistan voted for UN forces to cross into North Korea, a major US policy move. In the Political Conference on Korea, at the prompting of the USA, Pakistan opposed the membership and participation of her neighbour India. In 1951, adopting American policy, Pakistan signed the Japanese Peace Treaty, whereas her neighbour India did not.

The appointment of Bogra, Pakistan's Ambassador in the US, as Prime Minister in 1953 was widely regarded as a US 'appointment'. The Mutual Defence Agreement of 1954 further committed Pakistan to serve US interests. Military assistance was received under this Agreement to be used by Pakistan, "exclusively to maintain internal security, its legitimate self-defence, or to permit it to participate in the defence of the area, or in United Nations collective arrangements and measures." The Agreement further stipulated that the "Government of Pakistan will not, without the prior agreement of the USA devote such assistance to purposes other than those for which it was furnished", thereby limiting its independence, and permitting American personnel, including Army and Air Force officials to watch over this assistance.

AMERICAN INTERESTS

American interests dominated our foreign policy during most of the 1950s and 1960s. Basically as conceived by the US, this was a policy of containing communism, and preventing and halting Soviet and Chinese expansionism, conceptions quite contrary to the genuine perceptions and interests of Pakistan. As a result Pakistan soured relations with her neighbours — China, India and the Soviet Union, when the potential for the best of

relations with them was always present. By joining the Baghdad Pact (1956)/CENTO (prompted mainly by Anglo-American interests) and SEATO (1955) we offended our nationalists neighbours in the East and the West (in 1956 Nasser refused to meet Suhrawardy). The 1954 Defence Agreement was further strengthened by the 1959 Pakistan-USA bilateral Agreement, which stated that "in case of aggression against Pakistan, the Government of the USA will take such appropriate action, including the use of armed forces, as may be mutually agreed upon". The serious implications of these alignments with the USA were dramatically exposed by the U-2 incident in May 1960, which meant that a covert military intelligence base was secretly made available to the USA in Pakistan.

Our immediate concern is our foreign policy perceptions vis-a-vis the situation in Afghanistan following the massive Soviet military intervention, since December 1979. Does our approach still take shape according to the contours drawn and dictated by American advice and interests? The fact that Pakistan, in American eyes has been described as a "front-line state" (like Korea and Thailand which have access to US military intervention) shows that we are not in the driver's seat insofar as the formulation of our foreign policy is concerned. The Soviet Ambassador Smirnov in his address in Lahore on 14 February 1985 declared that "The Soviet Union stands for political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan. We are for immediate stop of the aggression and all kinds of interference into domestic Afghan affairs under effective international guarantees. We are for direct talks between the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and her neighbours, particularly Pakistan, to settle all mutual issues and to establish good-neighbourly friendly relations. You may not like the social structure in the neighbouring country but you cannot separate yourself from bordering with her and vice-versa". Ideologically Pakistan is averse to Communism, but that has not blocked our having the best of relations with Communist China, and Communist Russia. Even the USA once obsessed with so-called "Chinese expansionism" is now developing friendliest of relations and cooperation with Communist China.

Clearly an independent re-shaping of our foreign policy approaches is urgently needed which will serve our genuine national interests and are in harmony with the promotion of regional peace and cooperation. Pakistan is not a super power, but it is a regional power. As Agha Shahi once pointed out (27 Nov. '83) Pakistan is opposed

to any attempts being made to link the Afghan problem with US-Soviet relations. In fact the interaction between the two super powers on the one hand and the affected Third World countries on the other hand, is most unequal. A Third World country is in the nature of grass that gets trampled over when two elephants fight.

NON- ALIGNMENT

What Pakistan needs is genuine non-alignment and close, friendly and cooperative relations with her immediate neighbours, primarily India, Afghanistan, USSR, and China, and the rest of the world, including USA, Pakistan's traditional and long-time friend. We must not become pawns in the power game of the super-powers, or buy one super power's goodwill by polluting our relations with the other super-power. We should proceed to hold direct talks with the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. The indirect talks since April 1981 have dragged on too long, without really clinching the main issues involved. The indirect talks are a result of US-policy perceptions; they hardly serve regional interest in the area. Of course Soviet troops must quit Afghanistan before a true settlement can be achieved, but attempts to treat Afghanistan as another "Vietnam", or another Nicaragua cannot bring peace to this region. US seeks to oust the leftist Sandinist government of Nicaragua, and the CIA is in the picture with millions of dollars to back this policy. In fact it was recently revealed that the CIA had acquired nearly 300 million dollars to play a similar role with respect to US policy in Afghanistan. Pakistan must scrupulously avoid soiling hands with such overt or covert operations.

During a recent visit to India, the former Secretary of State Dr. Kissinger, said that India could play a major role by making specific proposals for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan. India is our closest neighbour. Any such genuine cooperation with India in helping to settle regional disputes without the intervention of a super power is bound to bear fruit, and in the process improve regional relations and peace as well. We must beware of a possible "Yalta" in Afghanistan — for instance trading Nicaragua for Afghanistan or vice-versa! And since America is already heavily involved in this issue, it is time US foreign policy ceases its tendency to identify its national security with conditions that undermine the entire international and regional system of independent states.

PAKISTAN

ON-INTEREST BANKING: ASPECTS EXPLAINED

Karachi DAWN in English 9 Mar 85 Business Supplement p I

Article by S. G. M. Budruddin]

Text]

NOW that the banking system will switch over completely to non-interest bearing operations, will the banks make the same high profits which they did in 1984, which were even described as "record" and "historic"?

Answering this question, the president of the National Bank of Pakistan, Mr Abdul Jabbar Khan, said that the rate of profits would not be lower than the current ones. "This I can say with certainty."

"With our present investments we are showing a profit. Our income will be, at least, equal to what it is in the present system, not less," stressed the NBP chief in the course of an interview to Dawn Economic & Business Review.

Profitability

Whether it would also be higher would depend on what extra income the banks get in the shape of commission, the exchange difference in imports and exports and through other profitable business that the banks can do, he added.

But how can you be so sure, when now you earn interest on investments and loans on a fixed rate and in the non-interest bearing system, you will have to share profits as well as losses?

Mr Jabbar Khan said that in the non-interest bearing system, with a better monitoring of the performances of business houses and industries, in which the banks put their fund, it would be possible to

reduce the chances of loss and in the changed situation, even the entrepreneurs would be more careful, if they had to stay in business.

Losses

Elaborating he said that under the present system also, when a client company suffers losses, the bank suffers because the losses are normally financed by bank loans. In the case of a bad debt, the situation would not be different in the non-interest bearing system, he said.

Explaining his point further, he said that even in the present system, despite the securities, there is not much that the banks can do if a client company suffers losses.

Since, however, more than 90 per cent of business houses and industries are healthy and profitable, they pay the bank interests and remain afloat.

In the non-interest bearing system, according to the NBP chief, there is apprehension that there would be more manipulation, against which the banks will have to provide effective safeguards.

Listing the safeguards, he said that to begin with, the banks could vet the projects which come up for financing. Emphasis until now has been on security. But under the non-interest bearing system more attention would be needed on feasibility for which the banks would have to improve their expertise on this side.

Another important safeguard, as

he said, would be a quarterly monitoring of the performance of the client company against its projections. This way, the bank would come to know about an ailment sooner, he added.

"Under the interest bearing system, we are happy with the security. Now, we will send for the man and try to sort out what has gone wrong. If the adverse circumstances were beyond his control, we would be his arm in trying to remove them", he said.

If as a result of monitoring it is found that the performance of a client company has not been satisfactory and this has resulted in the losses then the company should not be allowed to drain away the financial resources and even to exist, he opined.

In this context he quoted the situation of 1960s when permission for setting up textile mills were given to many on political and other grounds and because most of them lacked capability and experience they could not run the mills properly, some of which later became "sick".

In case it is found that there had been manipulations, the bank could even refuse further financing, Mr. Jabbar Khan said. And no sensible businessman would manipulate to the extent that he would make a bank suffer, if he wanted to remain in business."

Intervention

When asked if such measures would not give the banks an interventionist role in the private sector and gradually turn them into industrial enterprises, the NBP president said that as far as he could say such a role was neither envisaged for the banks nor it would be practical for them to assume.

"We might be looking into the affairs of client companies but only when they had shown adverse performance. Banks do not have any intention to interfere into their day-to-day affairs. We do not have the expertise for running businesses nor do we have the large staff needed to handle the huge volume of work that it would involve", he said.

Moral fibre

Questioned if in his view, Islamisation of banking would not be effective till such time as the society itself is morally strong, Haji Abdul Jabbar Saheb said: "I am not the person who says we wait till the moral fibre of the society improves".

If we have to wait for such a situation to develop we will have to wait till the doomsday, because no Messenger of Allah will now come to purify us and only Allah will take account of our deeds", he said.

In the context of the recent annual reports of the nationalised banks he was asked about the excess liquidity with banks and shrinking avenues for investment, especially in the non-interest bearing system.

Responding, Mr. Jabbar Khan said that this problem of excess liquidity had remained with the banks for a long time. But it would not remain so, as new channels of investment in the new system are being made available.

Khas Deposit Certificates

Asked if the recent large purchases of Khas Deposit Certificates by the banks were connected with the problem of liquidity, he said it had nothing to do with the problem. "As shrewd business people they took the opportunity to invest in these certificates as the opportunity opened for them."

With regard to the government decision to remove the ceiling placed on banks for the purchase of these certificates and the subsequent new ban, he said banks were not involved. We only came to know about them.

When it was pointed out to him that Khas Deposit Certificates were interest-bearing and were likely to continue to be so and their acquisition militated against the non-interest bearing system, Haji Jabbar Khan said he hoped by the next fiscal year, government would take steps to bring all the savings schemes within the non-interest bearing system.

COTTON: CROP, EXPORT PROBLEMS DISCUSSED

Karachi DAWN in English 9 Mar 85 Business Supplement p I, IV

[Article by Babar Ayaz]

[Text]

THOUGH the cotton crop winter last year (1983-84) has been faithfully followed by the spring this year, its blooming is not all that beautiful.

Last year, wide-spread damage to the crop skyrocketed the prices and forced us to import cotton, instead of exporting. This year, the bumper crop, timed with the same position world over, has depressed the prices and would leave us with heavy carry-over stocks.

The private sector estimates that by the end of the current cotton crop year, there would be one million bales of surplus stocks. But the Chairman of the Cotton Export Corporation (CEC), Mr Abid Hussain says: "It would not be more than 600,000 bales".

The figures for surplus stocks vary because the private sector and the CEC have different estimates about the textile sector's consumption. The CEC relies on the APTMA figures, which places its demand at around 3.2 million bales, while the ginners and private traders are placing textile mills' consumption at 2.8 million bales only.

Local demand

Since both the ginners and the textile mills have their own axe to grind through the projections of local demand, independent observers are not sure about the actual figures.

It is becoming increasingly difficult to ascertain textile mills' demand correctly because of the rising trend to use viscose and other man-made fibres in the industry.

Even last week, the Cotton Board meeting was postponed because of lack of statistics on the carry-over from 1983-84 crop with the textile mills. "No cotton balance sheet could be made in the absence of these figures", one member of the Board said after the meeting.

However, the CEC balance sheet for cotton, according to its Chairman Mr Abid Hussain, shows that out of total of 5.5 million bales coming out of the ginning factories, 3.2 million would be picked up by textile mills, CEC will export 1.6 million bales, private sector exports would be around 100,000 bales. And thus a surplus stocks of 600,000 bales would be carried over to the next year.

Since the private sector places the textile sector's demand at a lower figure, it feels that the CEC will have to carry over stocks of about one million bales.

However, both the CEC and the ginners share the view that a carry-over of 600,000 to one million bales was not lead, under the present international market condition. "A carry-over of 600,000 bales was just in line with the government policy of maintaining a few months' buffer stocks" the CEC chairman maintains.

Bumper crop

This performance is not bad Mr

Abid Hussain said, "especially when the world had a bumper crop and is expected to have a carry-over of about 40 million bales."

The cotton pundits forecast that despite the discouragement by the governments of some leading producers, like US, the 1985-86 crop will also be fairly big, which will keep cotton prices depressed.

They also question the policy of the Pakistan government which has set the cotton target for 1985-86 at 6 million bales. "What are we going to do with such a big crop when the export market is not likely to improve", one cotton trader asked.

The CEC Chairman agrees that the world cotton market was tougher and the same trend is likely to prevail. "China, one of our major buyers, has turned into our competitor in the raw cotton export market. It is competing with us in our traditional markets of Hong Kong and Japan," he elaborated.

New markets

Mr Abid Hussain feels that the only options for Pakistan are to search for new markets and to improve the quality of our product. "This year we have tried to make inroads, into both West and Eastern Europe markets, besides South Korea, Indonesia, Thailand and Malaysia," he told 'Dawn' Economic and Business Review.

CEC, according to Mr Hussain, has managed to sell more than 100,000 bales in Europe from the fresh crop and was expecting to get

further orders as the quality of ginning was improving.

But the private sector traders, who have been critical of the CEC from its inception, were of the view that the micro-naire quality of our cotton was not to the requirement of European market.

Mr Abid Hussain did not agree with it. "Pakistan cotton has the advantage of being 100 per cent hand-picked and the installation of pre-cleaners is also improving our lint quality", he maintained.

For improving the ginning quality of cotton, the Chairman of the CEC had declared the current crop year as "quality year". "We have initiated schemes to improve the quality of crop and ginning", Mr Hussain said.

Grading

The CEC Institute is giving training to supervisors for ginning factories. In another joint FAO-UNDP-CEC project, manpower is being trained for grading seed cotton.

This project is aimed at grading the seed cotton at the ginning factories and linking it with monetary incentives for the growers. "This would encourage the growers to do better picking and to refrain from yellow picking (immature picking)", Mr Hussain explained.

This scheme has been very successful, he added cheerfully, "and we intend to extend it to 50 ginning mills from next crop year compared to 15 mills this year.

It would be for the first time that the growers of cotton have been offered monetary incentive for the quality. Agricultural graduates are being trained as graders by Egyptian experts.

While the CEC is preparing itself for entering into new markets, the Karachi Cotton Association (KCA) officials feel that it has "missed the bus". They think that the private sector would have handled the cotton economy of the country better than the public sector both when the crop was lean last year or when it is a bumper crop this year.

Private sector

But Mr Abid Hussain says: "We imposed no limit on the private sector exports this year with the result that 29 per cent of cotton exports have been through private sector agents".

Private sector exporters are not satisfied with this share. They feel

that given a free hand they could do wonders.

The KCA has even demanded the opening of future market which, in its view, can provide stability of prices and create "equitable conditions for all those who handle cotton and its products".

The opinion on this issue among all concerned is divided. The CEC rejects the demand on the grounds that the future market would be manipulated by commission agents and would hurt the growers. Most of the ginners, barring a few from Sind who have the facility of operating at the KCA, are opposed to this move. Similarly, the textile sector also lacks consensus on this issue.

But the growers and the ginning factories appear to be unanimous on the stabilising role of the public sector. "There is no denying the fact that the CEC saved the growers and ginners by announcing a purchase target of 3 million bales this year, Mr M.A. Wadood, Chairman Pakistan Ginners Association stressed.

In the absence of the CEC, the growers would have been badly affected as the prices would have crashed to their lowest. "We had to make big purchases to keep the prices above the support price level and to encourage the growers to continue growing cotton", Mr Abid Hussain said.

Carry-over

The CEC is generally being criticised for carrying over huge stocks at the cost of about Rs 45 per bale per month. The CEC's explanation is that being a public sector organisation, it has to keep social objectives in view besides making profits.

"The CEC will have to bear the carry-over cost for the sake of keeping buffer stocks so that last year's situation is not repeated and for keeping the prices above the floor level," the CEC Chairman said.

Ginners are happy about the CEC buying because they feel that the textile sector was buying real slow, hoping for the prices to decline as they knew that supply was much more than the demand.

But on the whole the bumper crop has not pleased the ginners for a number of reasons. The PCGA Chairman Khawaja M.A. Wadood is knocking at the doors of the government for revision of its policy regarding cotton seed, oil cake and import of baling hoops. His cause is

also being supported by the KCA, which has many ginners on its Board of Directors.

Cotton seed

The bumper cotton crop has yielded them around 52 million maunds of cotton seed. The abundance of this commodity has lowered its price from the government estimates of Rs 76 per maund to about Rs 62 per maund, which has caused a loss of Rs 14 per maund to the ginners.

To meet this situation, both the KCA and PCGA have been asking the government to lift the Rs 45 per maund export duty so that cotton seed market could improve.

The PCGA has suggested that the government should also announce the support prices for cotton seed besides instructing the Ghee Corporation to purchase their stocks if the prices start falling from the bench mark.

To cheer up the depressed market of cotton seed oil, they have recommended to the Ministry of commerce to raise its price from Rs 320 per maund to Rs 400.

Baling hoops

Another problem being faced by the ginning mills is that the local industry has not been able to feed the high demand of baling hoops, with the result that their prices have been rising in the market.

They have appealed to the government to allow import of baling hoops without the imposition of import duty and sales tax. Similar demands are being made for the import of hessian cloth.

The KCA has approached the government to rationalise the local taxes being levied on phutti, cotton seed, lint and cotton seed oil, which they believe were affecting growers and ginners adversely.

All these problems indicate that whether it is a bad crop or a blooming crop, the concerned authorities and businessmen are not prepared for the eventualities.

Experts feel that the cotton economy should be dealt with as one whole and not on piece-meal basis. "We should have a comprehensive policy covering all related areas," one expert suggested.

If the entire issue is not reviewed now and if the 6 million bales target is achieved next year, we will land ourselves in cotton glut with hardly anyway to walk out of it, the experts said.

PAKISTAN

OIL: OFFICIAL POLICIES SAID TO DISCOURAGE EXPLORATION

Karachi DAWN in English 9 Mar 85 Business Supplement pp I, IV

[Article by M. Ziauddin]

[Text]

SOME powerful lobbies are said to be actively working to dissuade the Government of Pakistan from stepping up its oil exploration efforts.

In what is regarded not a very subtle attempt, the USAID in its presentation on energy conservation to the Energy Policy Board last month stated: 'Even if domestic oil production continues to increase, as it has, Pakistan is constrained by refinery capacity, which is now about 6 million tonnes per year. Additional refining capacity cannot be brought on line fast enough to change this situation much in the short term'.

What the statement did not point out was that by increasing domestic production, Pakistan can at least bring down gradually the volume of import of crude which at present is around 88,000 barrels a day and is estimated to increase at about 10 per cent.

Some circles believe that the fanfare accorded to the announcement of doubling of domestic oil production in recent months was also intended to create a make-believe situation of increased activity on oil exploration front.

In fact, most of the increase in production was due mainly to enhancement of yield from existing wells, as well as from production of test fields whose reserves and stable per day yield are yet to be estimated.

In a recent publication, the OPEC Bulletin (February 1985) while discussing Pakistan's oil potential says: "Since exploration has been insufficient it is difficult to assess Pakistan's prospects as an oil producing nation, and estimates of reserves remain very speculative."

"The latter have, in fact, been revised sharply upwards in the course of the present decade: an estimate in 1983 gave about 470 million barrels as the figure, but in an interview last year, the Minister for Petroleum cited a new, independent study as indicating potential reserves of 36 billion barrels", the publication adds.

The history of Pakistan's domestic oil production has undergone very interesting ups and downs.

Dhulian oilfield which at one time was producing 5,000 barrels a day has now declined to a trickle.

Meyal, with 6,000 barrels a day, has remained the most prolific field.

Toot produced about 1,500 barrels a day until development drilling in 1982 took the output to over 2,000 barrels a day. But in recent months production in this field has tended to decline sharply.

Similarly, the long established Joya Mir and Balkassar are declining.

In Pakistan private oil companies have made major contributions. SUI discovery by PPL and Meyal discovery by POL have

greatly helped the country to reduce, to an extent, its dependence on imported fuel. Even the current increase in production is due to speedy development and production of oil by Union Texas and Occidental. On the other hand, production from Toot and Tando Adam of OGDC has declined.

Offer

To attract the oil companies in 1982, the OGDC advertised in national and international press and in a number of oil and gas journals offering eight on-shore blocks for joint venture exploration. Considerable interest was shown and a number of oil companies personnel visited Pakistan in this connection.

In late 1982, an oil exploration agreement was signed with Occidental of Pakistan Inc., which resulted in the discovery of a major oilfield at Dhurnal.

Since then no contract is reported to have been signed with any other oil company for exploration in Pakistan. As a matter of fact, during this period BP and Shell have actually abandoned their operations in Pakistan.

In 1983 negotiations were started with Kuwait Foreign Exploration company (KUFPEC) and OGDC under the directive of their respective governments for joint venture explorations. However, so far no agreement is said to have been signed between the two agencies.

The Crescent Oil Company has reportedly applied for concess.

about a year ago, but so far no action is said to have been taken by the relevant agency in this regard.

Discouragement

The Dawood group has been granted a concession. But according to informed sources they are not being encouraged. Sufficient data has not been provided to Dawoods to enable them to attract foreign partners.

PPL and POL also are said to have lost interest in exploration activity as they have not been given sufficient incentives to start exploration. POL, some time back, reportedly applied for a small concessions but this has not been granted so far.

The lack of interest among international oil companies in Pakistan is attributed by knowledgeable circles to the OGDC's policy of blocking prospective areas for itself (either under concession or reserved for OGDC). So, it is said, that no prospective areas are available for exploration and thus the international oil companies are discouraged.

In 1979 Pakistan Petroleum Ltd and AMOCO found the small Adhi field, which went on stream in the following year and has since seen its output creep up towards 500 barrels a day.

In 1983 the OGDC discovered the Dakhni field. This well has been tested at a mere 600 barrels a day. However, the high sulphur content of this yield has delayed its commercial exploitation so far. The OGDC is reportedly awaiting special equipment for separating sulphur from the oil obtained from this field.

Discoveries

A major new discovery was made in April last year by Occidental Petroleum Corporation, with their Dhurnal-1 well, which has a stabilised rate of production of 5,950 barrels a day. In 1981, the Union Texas Petroleum Inc. struck oil in Badin block at Khaskheli and by 1983 this field was producing 6,600 barrels a day. The Khaskheli reserves are estimated to be six million barrels.

The next important discovery was made in Laghari by Union Texas in 1983. This field is now producing 3,500 barrels a day. In May last year, a substantial find at Tando Alam was announced by OGDC. The discovery well was tested at 5,100 barrels a day. But in recent months its production has declined markedly.

In the same month, Union Texas struck oil at Tajedi-1 testing it at 3,105 barrels a day. Later, in the year, Union Texas found oil at Dabhi-1 Wildcat. This well was tested at 4,320 barrels a day.

Potentials

While the new strikes cannot be dismissed as non-achievements, they actually give no indication of Pakistan's real oil potential. In the world context, good oil strikes are estimated in terms of millions of barrels a day and not thousands of barrels a day.

In the opinion of independent oil experts, the concerned agencies by playing up small discoveries as very big achievements were making attempts to convince the nation that they were doing all that was required to be done in regard to oil exploration.

For some unexplainable reasons, the experts said, the concerned

agencies were going about their job in a manner not at all conducive to increase exploration activity.

Elaborating their point they said, exploration of oil was a very high risk venture and even developed countries carry out the exploration for oil and gas through private oil companies. "Among developed countries, there is always a great competition to attract the oil companies," they added.

As a consequence, at present except Union Texas, which is drilling in a few places in their small block no other company is conducting any exploration work in Pakistan.

The last off-shore drilling in Pakistan was done by a private company in 1978. After that no off-shore well has been drilled. In 1982 OGDC in collaboration with Norwegian Government conducted off-shore seismic survey in Pakistan. In 1983 the results were available.

The OGDC and the Government made several press statements that a number of features have been located and the area has good prospects for oil discovery. But since then no drilling has been done.

According to informed sources, most of the prospective off-shore areas have been reserved for OGDC/Petro-Canada, so no other company can apply for concession in these areas.

Independent oil experts believe that to attract private oil companies the OGDC should put up for concessions all the reserved areas where it is not conducting drilling or doing survey work.

They also said the rupee companies-PPL and POL should be encouraged to start exploration and their genuine difficulties should be removed.

PAKISTAN

NEW AIR FORCE CHIEF PROFILED

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 8 Mar 85 p 3

[Text]

RAWALPINDI, March 7: Air Marshal Jamal Ahmad Khan, who yesterday assumed Command as the seventh Pakistani head of the PAF, brings to his office rich and varied experience of command, staff and instructional appointments.

During a career spanning more than 33 years he has achieved numerous unique distinctions. He is the only Vice Chief of the Air Staff in the history of the PAF to make it to the top. He is also the only PAF officer to have commanded two Air Forces—those of UAE and Pakistan. A noted fighter-pilot, he was the first Pakistani to fly the F-16 aircraft.

Commissioned in 1953, he remained in different fighter squadrons as squadron pilot and flight commander for six years before he became the founder Instructor-member of the prestigious Fighter Leaders School. Subsequently, he commanded an F-104 fighter squadron from 1962 to 1965. He also commanded a fighter wing of the Pakistan Air Force for 2 years. During the 1965 war he flew 30 operational missions and was awarded Sitara-i-Jurat for his courage, and aggressive leadership in the air. During the 1971 war he held a senior staff appointment at the

Command Operations Centre.

He held various command and staff appointments at Air Headquarters, including those of Director of Flight Safety and Director Plans, before he was appointed Base Commander, PAF Sargodha in 1973. Two years later he returned to Air Headquarters to become the Chief Inspector and later the Assistant Chief of the Air Staff (Plans). Seconded to UAE in 1977, he commanded the UAE Air Force for three years. On return home he was appointed Assistant Chief of the Air Staff (Operations). From 1981 to 1984 he served as Dy. Chief of the Air Staff (Operations). He took over as Vice Chief of the Air Staff in April, 1984.

A widely-travelled officer, he has done a number of advanced courses, including the Fighter Weapons Instructor Course (U.K) —in which he achieved the highest air-to-air gunnery scores, the Joint Services Staff College (U.K) and the PAF Staff College Courses.

In recognition of his meritorious services he had been awarded a number of decorations, including Hilal-i-Imtiaz (Military), Sitara-i-Imtiaz (Military) and Sitara-i-Basalat, in addition to Sitara-i-Jurat.—PR

CSO: 4600/344

PAKISTAN

BRIEFS

MINISTERS RETIRED FROM ARMY--ISLAMABAD, March 6--The Federal Minister for Production, Lt-Gen Saeed Qadir, and the Minister for Kashmir Affairs, Lt-Gen Jamal Said Mian, have been retired from Army from last night. Both the re-tired Generals will continue to serve the Government as Federal Ministers. It is learnt that Lt-Gen (Retd) Saeed Qadir, and Lt-Gen (Retd) Jamal Said Mian will contest for the Senate from their respective areas. Lt-Gen (Retd) Saeed Qadir belongs to Lahore and Lt-Gen (Retd) Jamal Said Mian hails from Orakzai agency of NWFP's Tribal Area. [Text] [Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 7 Mar 85 p 1]

PIA RESUMES TEHRAN FLIGHTS--Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) is resuming, direct weekly Karachi-Teheran-Karachi flights from this morning, PIA sources said yesterday. The first flight (PK-251) will leave today Narrow-bodied Boeing 707/720-B, aircraft will operate these flights. These flights were suspended in September 1980 following the outbreak of Iran-Iraq war. PIA's Islamabad-Teheran flights were resumed in November, 1982. [Text] [Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 6 Mar 85 p 1]

TRADE TEAM FOR BANGLADESH, NEPAL--A general trade delegation of Pakistan is expected to visit Bangladesh and Nepal in April/May this year. The delegation will cover items including cotton yarn, and fabrics, cotton thread, light engineering goods, pharmaceuticals, sports goods, electrical goods, leather goods, plastic and rubber products and rice. [Text] [Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 6 Mar 85 p 8]

EXPORTS STATISTICS--Exports from Pakistan to Australia in October last year amounted to 2.3 million dollars out of Australia's total imports worth 2,608 million dollars, during the month. It represented 0.09 per cent Pakistan's share of the total Australian import market during the month under review. Items-wise Pakistan's share was as under: Raw cotton: Pakistan had over 8 per cent of the market for imported cotton, with Japan (91 per cent) as the major supplier during October, 1984. Raw Wool: 83 per cent of imports were from New Zealand, Pakistan had only 0.4 per cent of the market. Guar gum: U.S.A. leads with 31 per cent of the market followed by New Zealand, (9 per cent,) U.K. (6 per cent), Japan (4 per cent). All other major suppliers including Pakistan had shares ranging from 2.1 to 3.7 per cent. Leather: Major suppliers included New Zealand (39 per cent), India (16 per cent), Italy (8 per cent), Japan and U.S.A. (5 per cent each) and U.K. (4.6 per cent). Pakistan accounted for only 0.2 per cent. [Text] [Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 5 Mar 85 p 1]

KALABAGH DAM CONSORTIUM FORMED--ISLAMABAD, March 4--Kalabagh National Consortium comprising of seven leading construction companies of Pakistan--NC, MLC, Gamon Pak, Interhom, Descon, Hyederi and NASA--was formed here under the chairmanship of Maj-Gen (Rtd) Shafiq Ahmad Chairman National Construction. This consortium will forward their recommendations to the Ministry of Planning and Development and Ministry of Water and Power about the execution of the Kalabagh Dam Project. The estimated cost of this project is Rs. 5,000 crore. It is on river Indus, 193 KM downstream of Terbela dam. [Text] [Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 5 Mar 85 p 3]

SARC TO ADOPT EMBLEM--Islamabad, Feb. 18--The Foreign Ministers of the seven South Asian nations of Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka will adopt the SARC emblem at their next meeting to be held in Bhutan in May from designs to be suggested by the regional countries. The Government of Pakistan has invited talented artists and designers in the country to contribute original designs for the emblem. The SARC emblem should reflect the aspirations of the governments of these South Asian countries to promote the welfare and quality of life of their peoples through active collaboration and mutual assistance in the economic, social, cultural, technical and scientific fields as well as to contribute to mutual trust, understanding and appreciation of one another's problems.--APP [Text] [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 19 Feb 85 p 8]

COPIES OF MAGAZINES FORFEITED--Karachi, Feb. 18--The Government of Sind has, with immediate effect, declared all copies of the weekly 'Mashriq', London (Nov. 14, 1984 issue) and monthly 'Karwan', Oslo (Nov. 84 issue) forfeited. According to a notification issued by the Sind Home Department, the action has been necessitated, as the above journals contained objectionable material under the Press and Publication Ordinance, 1963. [Text] [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 19 Feb 85 p 8]

EXTENSION OF DETENTIONS DEPLORED--Islamabad--March 6--Air Marshal (Retd) Asghar Khan, chief of the defunct Tehrik-e-Istiqlal, has denounced the Government's decision to extend the detention terms of political detenus. In a statement issued from his Abbottabad's residence Asghar Khan said in fact there was no justification for arresting and detaining these political leaders and workers in the first instance. Now after the completion of the 'so-called polls' the extension of their detention period would only mean that the regime had no respect for the newly elected Assemblies. He said all those people who took part in the elections and showed interest in them should now ponder as to what they have lost and gained. No nation, he added, could be mobilised without the active participation of the political parties. [Text] [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 7 Mar 85 p 1]

PLOT AGAINST AFGHAN REBELS--Rawalpindi, March 6--A plot to assassinate the top leaders of the Afghan refugees organisations has been uncovered in Peshawar. Eleven persons have been arrested while search is on for several others. In this connection, a number of possible hideouts of the suspected persons have been raided and the police believed that the number of those involved might have been fairly large. The saboteurs had plans to kill the Afghan leaders through boobytrap and other means. Large number of powerful bombs and sophisticated weapons have been recovered from the suspected persons. [By Murtaza Malik] [Text] [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 7 Mar 85]

PESHAWAR LAWYERS AGAINST AMENDMENTS--Peshawar, March 6: The Peshawar High Court Bar Association has strongly condemned the amendments in the Legal Practitioner and Bar Councils Act and described it as an attempt to stop the lawyers community from fighting for the people's rights. At a meeting of the PHCBA held under the presidentship of Mian Mohammad Ismail Qureshi a resolution passed on the subject said that since the lawyers were engaged in the struggle for the revival of the constitutional government which they believed to be a sacred task, the Government had brought in these amendments to curb these activities. Besides it was an attempt to play off the bar and the judiciary against each other. However, such negative measures could never bear the desired fruit and the lawyers will continue to fight for the restoration of the fundamental rights of the people. The meeting urged the Government to withdraw the amendments and also appealed to the Bar Councils and the Associations to take immediate steps to get the lawyers demands accepted as the judiciary nowhere in the world was responsible for maintaining discipline among the lawyers. [Text] [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 7 Mar 85 p 8]

PROVISION FOR OPPOSITION LEADER--Karachi, March 6: Along with the Leader of the House, i.e. the Chief Minister, an office and a seat has also been provided for the Leader of the Opposition in the Sind Assembly building now renovated for the first Provincial Assembly session on March 12. This has been arranged by the administration in line with the traditions, oblivious of the fact that the elections have been held on partyless basis and it would be difficult to choose an "opposition leader" by the elected members of the Assembly. Perhaps the administration has been influenced by the President's statement that with his constitutional amendments the fundamental nature of the parliamentary system has not been changed. If the parliamentary system is intact then there should be a Leader of the House and a Leader of the Opposition and along with them the Treasury and Opposition Benches. It is not known what arrangements have been made for the National Assembly in Islamabad but if the parliamentary system is intact then there should be a place for the leader of the Opposition along with the Leader of the House. In Karachi the headquarters of the Martial Law Administrator Zone "C" in the Assembly building (once the Constituent Assembly premises during the days of the Quaid-e-Azam), has been shifted to KDA building, while the offices of the Governor Sind MLA have moved to Governor's House. Meanwhile, aspirants for Senate seats are actively contacting the 100 MPAs of Sind who will form the electoral college for the election of the 14 members of the Senate and five ulema, technocrats and professionals. [Text] [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 7 Mar 85 p 8]

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